

FREE!

Agawam Public Libraries
733 Main St.
Agawam Mass. 01001

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FEEDING HILLS
MASS 01030
PERMIT NO. 102

THE

ADVERTISER

OUR 6TH YEAR



AGAWAM • FEEDING HILLS • SOUTHWICK • SUFFIELD • WEST SPRINGFIELD

32 PAGES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1976

VOL. 12, NO. 5

THE NON-VOTER: WHY HE DOESN'T !

Jr. Women's Club Fashion Show



L-R: Edie Lubarsky, Pat Humiston, Chairwoman of fashion show; Naney Farrell, Joann Hornyak, in charge of raffle and quilt project.

"A NEW BEGINNING — THE NEXT 200 YEARS" is the theme for the annual Fashion Show sponsored by the Agawam Junior Women's Club. Mrs. Pat Humiston, chairman of the event, announced Tuesday, October 5 as the date. Proceeds from the sale of tickets make possible the scholarships awarded to local students who wish to pursue their studies. This past year, \$480.00 in scholarships was awarded to Agawam students, and a special scholarship was awarded to a local woman returning to school. Tickets are now on sale and may be purchased from any club member or by contacting Mrs. Julie Dubuque, (739-6555) 105 Channell Drive. There will be an added attraction this year, the raffling of a beautiful hand-made quilt, during intermission. This quilt was made by members of the Agawam Junior Women's Club as a project during the 1975-1976 club year. Much research was done on the making of quilts, and the design chosen was the "Wrench" design. This consists of 8 triangular pieces, and 9 square pieces, pieced together to form a 12 inch square. The squares were trimmed with 2" x 14" rectangular strips of the main colored fabric, making a total of 19 pieces per square. 56 of these squares were made, making a total of 1,064 patchworked pieces for the front of the quilt. The squares were then placed on the background, with the sandwiched in between. These squares were then quilted individually. The squares were sewn together in rows and the rows together to form the finished quilt. All materials were donated by club members and local merchants.

Women's fashions will be presented by Mr. Sal's Boutique, Cooper Street and men's fashions will be presented by Village Clothier, Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. The Natural Look of Westfield will do the models hairstyles and Lady Finelle Cosmetics will do the make up of the models.

The event will be held at the Agawam Junior High School on Springfield Street in Feeding Hills. Remember the date is Tuesday, October 5 at 8 p.m. so mark your calendars now. Tickets will be available at the door. The public is invited to attend this event, so tell your friends about the Fashion Show, and plan on attending. There will be a variety of door prizes, highlighted with tickets to Stage West. Refreshments will be served following the Fashion Show.

Agawam Has Lowest Tax Increase

As each community releases its tax rate figures, Agawam's one dollar increase becomes more favorable in comparison to others.

Although most tax payers would have preferred no increase, this apparently was not possible if present ser-

vices and a substantial reserve was to be maintained.

Cities and towns in Western Mass. that have reported their rate increase to date are:

Agawam +
Southwick +
W. Springfield +

\$1.00
3.00
2.00

Ludlow +
Pittsfield +
Holyoke +
Westfield +

9.00
13.00
19.80
12.00

Chicopee has not released its rate as of September 20th and is expected to announce a whopping \$68.00 increase. Springfield anticipates an increase of \$7.00.

BY J. J. SMITH

One of the most precious thing any American has is the right to vote, yet come election day in November some 65 million persons will fail to avail themselves of that privilege. Here in Massachusetts, with some 4.1-million eligible to register, 1.2-million aren't even registered.

This phenomenon is puzzling to many foreigners, and, indeed, to many Americans as well, but heretofore all most of us could do was guess as to the causes.

In the past, the blame largely was placed on difficulties of language, registration, poverty, remote residence or minority status. Now, however, Washington pollster Peter Hart, in a new study done for a public interest group, sheds startling light on the nation's non-voter group.

This was a first-of-its kind, in-depth systematic study of the problem which utilized interviews of about 90 minutes and contained questions on some 200 items. A total of 1400 were thus quizzed.

Not surprisingly (now that the trail is blazed by this study), this abstention from the polls was explained by more than two thirds as stemming from "candidates (who) say one thing and do another" while more than half felt "it doesn't make any difference who is elected because things never seem to work right." (How many times, upon reflection, have you and I heard neighbors and friends make similar observations?)

The traditional view of voter disenchantment was repudiated when less than a

third of the non-voters said they refrained from voting because of difficulties connected with language, transportation, registration, babysitting or minority status.

Whether a legacy of the turbulent Sixties or Watergate or whatever, the fact remains that nearly half of all the non-voters are between 18 and 34. Shockingly, 59 percent of the non-voters within that age group said they planned to continue this non-vote status.

This same age group also spurns party loyalty with nearly one-half self-described as independents or against all parties. Surprisingly, this youthful turn-off does not stem from anti-American feeling because a whopping 87 percent said the good old U.S.A. was the most democratic country in the world.

The most significant party of the study is the inevitable conclusion that must be reached from consideration of the findings described above — that attitudes toward government are more important than personal problems in determining non-voting.

In the eyes of these respondents, our national leaders have let them down and turned them off. This was reflected starkly in the poll when responses were given as regards the contemporary political figures most admired — and just one percent cited President Ford and Jimmy Carter! Overwhelmingly, they opted for men no longer living — 50 percent cited John F. Kennedy while other dead

leaders most admired were Franklin Roosevelt (20 percent), Harry Truman (10 percent), Robert Kennedy (5 percent) and Martin Luther King (4 percent).

When no living political figure — including the incumbent president and the man seeking his job — can reach the 4 percent mark in such a poll, the extent of the turn-off strikes home even more sharply.

This disenchantment by such a large segment of our young has serious implications, not the least the ability in the years immediately ahead to develop a clearcut political majority to make needed changes in our government — changes that should be obvious to all. With such attitudes, faith in government and the future well-being of the political parties are both in peril.

Massachusetts unquestionably has its comparable share of these non-voters, as reflected by the 1.2-million persons Secretary of State Paul Guzzi told us recently haven't even bother to register even though eligible.

It's easy to register in Massachusetts. A simple trip to your city or town hall to fill out an Affidavit of Registration — it takes just five minutes — and you're a registered voter. Most city and town halls even have Saturday registration.

The deadline for registering in the November general election is October 5. Let's hope some of these non-voters change their minds, and not waste what is truly an invaluable franchise.

Silver Anniversary For V.F.W.

The Bicentennial year is Post 1632, Agawam, Silver Anniversary year. We are planning a gala weekend. Hope you will plan to celebrate with us.

The 25th Anniversary Banquet and Ball will be held at the Silver Coach Inn, 1520 Main Street, Agawam, Mass., October 1st. \$7.50 is the admission fee.

Menu includes: roast prime rib of beef at 7:30 p.m.; dancing at 8:00 p.m. Guest Speaker will be Past National Commander Joseph A. Scerra.

An open house will be held at V.F.W. Post 1632, South Street, Agawam, Mass., October 2, with a parade at 1:00 p.m. on Adams St. to Main St. to South St. A dedication of

Flag Mast at 2:30 p.m. in memory of Edward Connelly, Jr. Refreshments will be served at the past home.

A chicken barbecue will be held at V.F.W. Post 1632 Pavilion, October 3. The menu includes clam

chowder, chicken, potato, vegetable, salad, dessert, and coffee, serving from 11:00 a.m. with dancing at 1:00 — 5:00. Donation is \$2.75.

Reservations must be made by September 27, 1976.

**AGAWAM ANNUAL
TOWN REPORT
PAGES 11 TO 22**

EDITORIALS : Power Authority A Cruel Hoax

The claim that a Massachusetts Power Authority will mean lower electric rates is a cruel political hoax because:

- 1) Even the proponents admit there can be no savings for at least ten years. We believe there never will be any.
- 2) The State bureaucracy has a miserable record at both fiscal planning and keeping promises.
- 3) rate increases would be immediate and automatic with a Massachusetts Power Authority.
- 4) It ignores the fact that keeping your lights burning is such a vital service that it is a job for professionals, not amateurs.

Electric utilities and their employees have consistently met the electrical energy demands of consumers with a reliability record of better than 99.9%.

With a Two Billion Dollar (\$2,000,000,000) investment and responsibility for planning which reaches more than ten years into the future, a reliable electric supply cannot be delivered by amateurs. Inadequate fiscal planning and 12th hour decision-making so common among governmental agencies could spell disaster for your vital electric supply and the economy of Massachusetts.

A recent Governor's Study Commission concluded that most likely savings from the Authority may be about 2% but not until at least 10 years from now — 1985. To realize even this tiny savings, the Commission made a number of questionable assumptions and assumed equal efficiency for the State bureaucracy and private business. We think that individual employees of both the State and industry are equally motivated. But on the State's management side, equal efficiency means no new bureaucracy, no deficit ridden MBTA's, no Interstate 93's, no Middlesex County Courthouses, no scandalous Boston Common Garages, no Four Billion Dollar (\$4,000,000,000) unfunded pension programs and no unexpected Four Hundred Fifty Million Dollar (\$450,000,000) State deficits.

In addition, the people would have to give up all control over rates. The Massachusetts Power Authority could immediately set any rate it felt was necessary. In contrast, private utilities must now wait months for full public hearings before rate changes can be made.

The proponents' claim that electricity is cheaper in other parts of the country because of Government power ignores the fact that vast quantities of cheap coal and hydro power are available in other areas. Given these same conditions, Massachusetts also would have lower rates. Higher fuel costs and inflation, the primary causes of higher electric bills in Massachusetts, are things government has already shown it can do nothing about.

It ignores the fact that taxes also are higher in Massachusetts. Massachusetts electric companies paid over \$120,000,000 in 1975 State and local property taxes. If, as the proponents claim, the State can do such a good job, then why not start in an area where it already has responsibility — like taxes?

A State faced with all the fiscal problems Massachusetts has would be irresponsible to get into a new multi-billion dollar business as vital to Commonwealth as the reliable and adequate supply of electricity.

As Maine Goes....?

In the not-so-distant past, it was a rule of thumb in presidential races to observe "As Maine goes, so goes the rest of the nation." We hope the same holds true in the area of law enforcement.

A short time ago, Maine adopted a completely new criminal code which may well serve as a model for the other 49 states. This monumental task was performed in a scant three years, and the Pine Tree State scrapped statutes that were among the oldest, most outmoded in the nation. They were replaced with a set of laws that are both new and innovative.

Maine's goal is to become the first state to provide justice that is swift and sure. It is a goal which Massachusetts would do well to embrace, especially considering that we have the slowest and most cumbersome court system in the country.

Maine lawmakers abolished indefinite sentences, decriminalized certain offenses, did away with paroles and probation, provided mandatory jail terms for some crimes, and put into effect other significant changes.

The need for reform in Massachusetts is glaringly obvious. We hope our senators and representatives tear some pages from the Maine book, and make changes that will remove our criminal justice system from the horse and buggy era. The need is self-evident.

THUMBMAIL Thoughts By Senator Snuffy

America's Republicans chose between an ex-actor and an ex-football player for president. Democrats say they deserve what they got.

Uncle Sam keeps propping up foreign governments with millions, and still it doesn't seem to do much good.

Neither investigator nor administrator is he, if FBI Director Clarence Kelly didn't know work was being done on his own apartment.

The only truism from Boston's "Warnergate Affair" is that somebody did a heckuva lot of lying to the grant jury.

Massachusetts politics are strange. A Republican House Minority Leader, Frank Hatch, inadvertently patched up things between Governor Dukakis and Senate President Harrington.

Over-Organized Minorities

The political dictum of recent decades has been, at least among politicians, to praise every minority organization and champion every ethnic undertaking—as a symbol of the multi-racial and multi-culture of America, as proof various peoples are making our melting-pot conglomerate work and succeed.

Not all minority or racial organizations are good for America or minorities solicited. Minorities can be over-ly organized into nationalistic and divisive influences. They can become a threat to unity and solidarity, and to effective democratic government.

So far, because no one minority has become powerful enough to threaten the majority, the melting pot process has worked surprisingly well. Our success at living together, working together and unifying in time of emergency has astounded Europeans who predicted years ago the American multi-racial experiment would some day collapse in strife and bitterness.

This success story has been achieved partly because immigrants coming to America were ready to learn the language of the nation and its democratic system.

Present-day immigrants from Latin America are, however, in some cases being organized into blocs demanding the Spanish language be taught in schools, used in court and municipal proceedings, etc. They are not trying to assimilate themselves into the mainstream of America, in some cases, but attempting to build a Spanish-speaking community, isolated to a degree, from traditional America.

It should be made clear to all new citizens that they can only understand this country, its history, laws and freedoms, if they read and speak English. They should be encouraged to do so by all possible means. Resistance should be firm against substitution of Spanish for English by anyone in an official capacity.

This is not because English is a better language. But English is the language of freedom in the western world. There is no record of long-standing, successful democracy in any Spanish-speaking country. The Anglo-Saxon heritage is the basis and reason for our success in self-government, and in the ideals, beliefs, freedoms and restraints of that heritage.

There has been no growth in the use of German, French, or other foreign languages—nor of the Italian language—in America. All these hyphenated Americans could make the same claim some Spanish-Americans make today. They don't. They became Americans. Americans speak English.

It is sure to lead to divisiveness and misunderstanding if Spanish American arrivals in our land are not assimilated just as other nationalities have been for centuries.

Council For Children Meeting

The Council for Children will be having its yearly meeting in Agawam for all residents who are interested in quality children's services. Agawam citizens may register as members of the Council for Children and identify specific problems and solutions which the Council will act on this year.

The Council will also honor a person from Agawam who has volunteered much of their time for children.

The meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. at St. David's Church hall, 522 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, on Thursday evening, September 23. Call 562-5255 for more information.

ONE MINUTE SPORTS QUIZ

1. Who won golf's Tournament of Champions?
2. Name the winner of the Phoenix Ladies Pro Golf Tournament.
3. Julius Erving plays pro basketball for what team?
4. Ken Rosewall is associated with what sport?
5. Who won the Boston Marathon?

Answers To Sports Quiz

1. Don January.
2. Judy Rankin.
3. New York Nets.
4. Tennis.
5. Jack Fultz.

Letters



To the Editor:

I am a inmates in Lucasville, Ohio. I have no family or friends to write to and, if I my say, I'm lonely and need someone to correspond with.

This prison furnishes no funds for the inmates. If you would please consider my situation and print a notice in your paper, free of charge. I would greatly appreciate it.

I am locked in a world of darkness with such an unbelievable hatred. I'm lonely and need correspondence with people in the free world — I'm in prison, please help
Dennis J. Walden
143-927

P.O. Box-787
Lucasville, Ohio
45648

NORTHERN CONNECTICUT REALTY INC.

114 MOUNTAIN RD., SUFFIELD, CT.
— 668-0277 —

Thinking of Buying or Selling?
Stop In and See Us or Call

★ ★

MEMBER OF MLS
TOM LOWNDS — JANICE STEINMETZ
ROY GALLANT AND ROY JOHNSON

SPAN CENTER

Personal, Family and Drug Information
Help and Referral Service
Individual, Marriage, Family and Drug
COUNSELING

No Fees Charged — Strictly Confidential

HOURS

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
9:00 A.M. — 9:00 P.M.

770 SPRINGFIELD ST., FEEDING HILLS

TEL. 786-6410

Larry Green's *Larry Green's*

<i>Larry Green's</i> Gale	MERCURY LINCOLN	ENFIELD SPRINGFIELD HARTFORD	745-3383 737-6583 623-3016
-------------------------------------	----------------------------------	---	---

50 POLOMBA DR., ENFIELD, CT.

LINCOLN **BUY NOW** **CAPRI**
EXTRA SPECIAL
YEAR-END SAVINGS
ON ALL 1976
LINCOLN • MERCURY
BUY NOW & DRIVE
THE CAR OF YOUR
CHOICE AND
\$ SAVE \$
LARRY GREEN'S
GALE
LINCOLN-MERCURY
MONARCH **MARK IV**
BOBCAT **MONTEGO**
LINCOLN **MONARCH**
COUGAR **COUGAR**
MONTEGO **CAPRI** **MARK IV**

Open: Monday thru Thursday 'til 9 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 'til 6 p.m.

Easy to get to-Off I-91 to Enfield Shopping Center exit
Located just to the east of G. Fox & J. Homestock

Larry Green's *Larry Green's* *Larry Green's*

GINO'S LIQUORS**JUST AROUND THE CORNER FROM
ZAYRES & FOOD MART, AGAWAM****IT'S EXCITING****NOW
AT
GINO'S
PLAY
THE
NUMBERS
GAME****MASSACHUSETTS
STATE LOTTERY****ICE CUBES****WHISKEYS**

ROYAL RESERVE	\$4⁷⁹ QT.	\$ 9³⁹ 1/2 GAL.
CANADIAN RARE	\$4⁹⁹ QT.	\$ 9⁹⁹ 1/2 GAL.
LTD. CANADIAN	\$5⁶⁹ QT.	\$10⁶⁹ 1/2 GAL.

SCOTCHMcGREGOR'S **5²⁵** QUART **\$9⁹⁹** 1/2 GALLON**GIN**SCHENLEY 90° **\$5²⁹** QUART NUYENS GIN **\$8⁹⁹** 1/2 GALLON **\$4⁷⁹** QUART
OR VODKARON RICO RUM . . . **\$5⁸⁵** QT.**LARGE SELECTION OF NIPS**

RELSKA VODKA — 3 NIPS	\$1⁰⁰
CANADIAN MIST — 3 NIPS	\$1⁰⁰

ST. REGAS FLAVORED BRANDIES **\$4⁹⁹** QT.**WINE IMPORTS**

LAMBRUSCO—DONELLI	\$1⁶⁹ 4/5	\$3¹⁰ MAG.
CAROLA	\$1²⁵ 4/5	\$2⁴⁵ MAG.
ROSEGARTEN LEIFRAUMILCH	\$1⁹⁹ 4/5	\$3⁴⁹ MAG.
RICARDI ASTI SPUMANTE		\$2⁹⁹ 4/5
MATUES ROSE		\$2⁹⁹ 4/5

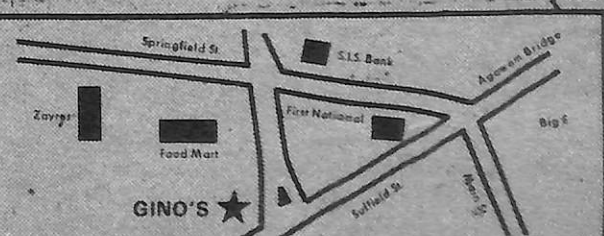
**LARGE SELECTION OF ITALIAN & FRENCH WINES
DOMESTIC WINES**CARLO ROSSI RED MOUNTAIN
CHABLIS • PINK CHABLIS • BURGUNDY • VINE ROSE
99¢ 4/5 **\$3⁶⁵** GAL. **\$13⁵⁰** CASE OF 4 GAL.

WINEMASTER — PORT • MUSCATEL • SHERRY

\$1⁴⁰ QT. **\$2⁷⁵** 1/2 GAL. **75¢** TENTH**BEER**

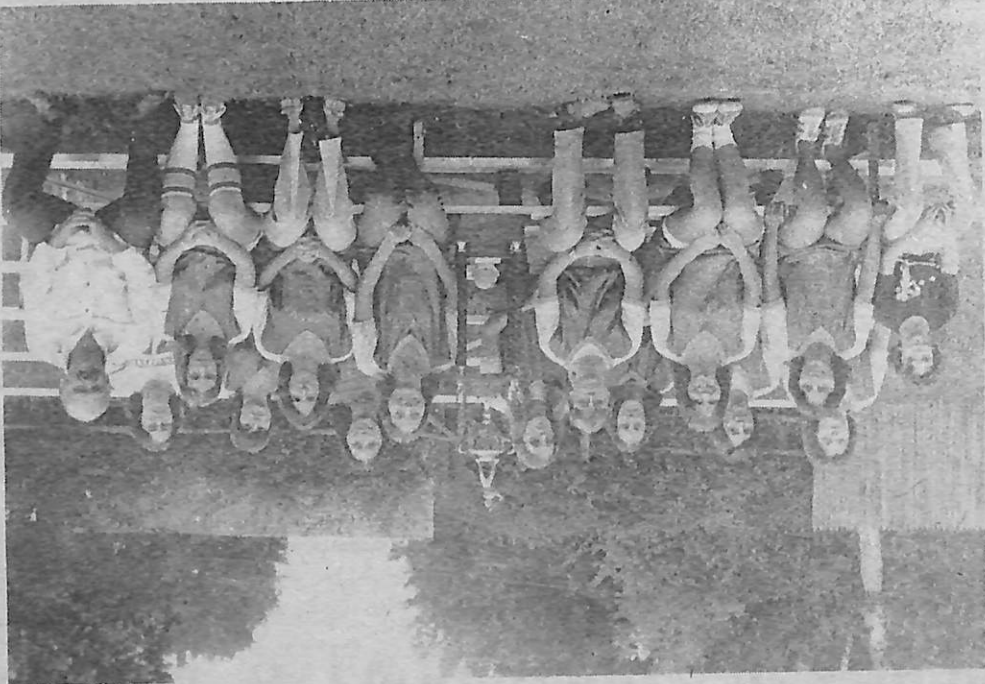
PIELS LIGHT N/R 12 OZ.	\$1²⁰ 6/PK	\$4⁷⁵ CASE
BALLANTINE N/R 12 OZ.	\$1²⁵ 6/PK	\$4⁹⁹ CASE
FALSTAFF 12 OZ. CANS	\$1⁴⁰ 6/PK	\$5²⁵ CASE

BALLANTINE 16 OZ. RTD.	\$1²⁵ 6/PK	\$4⁹⁹ CASE
PIELS LIGHT 16 OZ. RTD.	PLUS DEP.	

**GINO'S
HANDY
MART**BREAD • ROLLS • GROCERIES
SODA • JUICES • MILK
ICE CREAM • CIGARETTES**WHILE AT GINO'S LIQUORS VISIT THE HANDY MART NEXT DOOR****WALNUT PLAZA**WALNUT ST. EXT.
AGAWAM, MASS.HOURS: MON.-SAT., 8 TO 11
SUNDAYS, 8 TO 10

PARKS & RECREATION

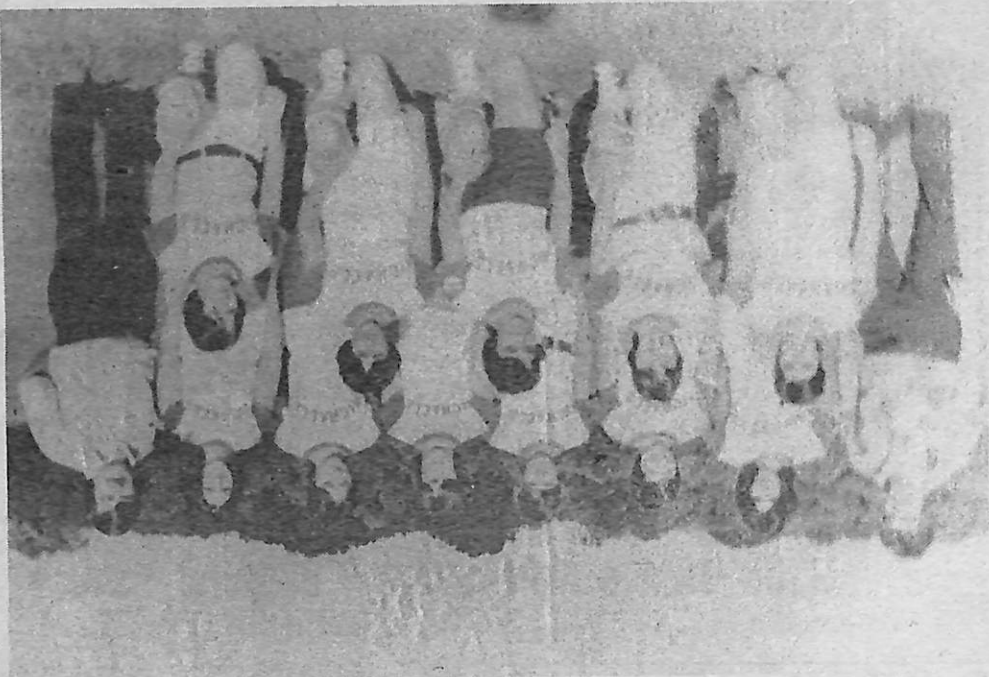
Women's Softball League Winners



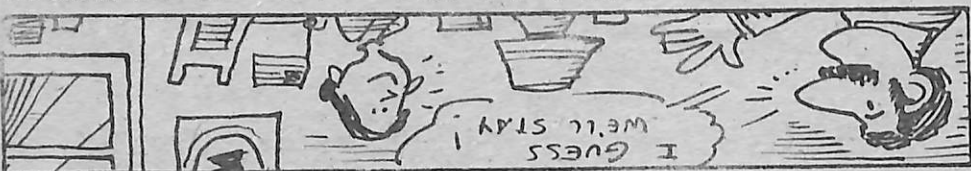
Southgate Lounge — First Place (left to right), Row 1: Guy Mercandante; Alice Hamel; Sue Kulas; Karen Shaw; Colleen Blakesley; Cheryl Rising; Ginny Melanson; Lou Mercandante; Coarck. Row 2: Lori Mercandante; Charlene Maniscalchi; Kathy Fritten; Grace Rising; Sandi Sweet; Lorrie Rennell; Diane Griffen.



Buccanier Lounge — Second Place (left to right) Row 1: Sue Johnson; Marti Palmer; Sandy Fila; Sandy Demas. Row 2: Frank Fila; Kathy Ennis; Sheila Caramazza; Karen Manning; Francis Lunnier; Lorrie Fish. Missing: Tiger Williams; Chris Caney; Brandy McCarthy; Mary Raya; Debbie Lane; Dorothy Rickus; Marie Costello.



Michaels — Third Place (left to right) Row 1: Robin Easter; Barbara Cormier; Carol Rossi; Coach; Marie Lomellini; Donna McKay. Row 2: Mike Connor; Sponsor; Cindy Kelley; Linda Schutt; Karen Zucco; Karen Campbell; Debbie Dahdah; Pat Lappie; and Don Purcell. Coach: Missing; Paula Hadden; Team Rep; Marilyn White; Assistant Coach; Ann Marie Rowe; Moe Magnum; Cindy Connelley.



Between the years 1820 and 1971 the United States received an estimated 45,533,116 immigrants.

NEWS VIEWS

Moshe Dayan, former Israeli Defense Minister: "The only solution is not to give us more arms for our security, but to give us more security so we can have less arms."

Walter Mondale, Democratic Vice-Presidential candidate: "We want American business to succeed just as we want a more secure and prosperous future for the American people."

Lester Maddox, American Independent Party candidate: "If we get debates with Carter and Ford, then it will be a very hotly contested campaign."

Jimmy Carter, Democratic Presidential candidate: "We need a President and a Secretary of Agriculture who understand the problems of the family and the consumer."

Gerald Ford, President, on parks: "Preserving our priceless American heritage would be our bicentennial birthday present to future generations."

Strom Thurmond, Senator (R-SC): "Draft dodgers have violated the law and should be dealt with on the same basis as other law violators."

Best Of Press

Definition
Executive: A man who can make a decision and stick to it—no matter how wrong he is.

Good Advice
Don't go around complaining. You have one less leg to stand on when you kick.

Question In The Night
Why is it that a person who snores never has insomnia?

At Large
A delegate at large is a man who goes to a convention without his wife.

Bible Verse
"Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves."
1. Who is the author of this verse?
2. What does this verse warn us against?
3. What is the rest of the verse?
4. Where may it be found?

Answers To Bible Verse
1. The Psalmist—probably King David.
2. Against the sin of worry.
3. "We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture."
4. Psalm 100:3.

KITS & CRAFTS HOBBY SHOP

20% OFF

ALL MODEL CARS & TRUCKS METAL CARS — TRAILERS

DURING SUFFIELD'S OCTOBERFEST OCTOBER 1-2-3 ONLY

Suffield Village—Lower Level

TOWNE INSURANCE AGENCY INC.

COMPLETE INSURANCE COVERAGE

Auto — Truck — Trailer

Motorcycle — Snowmobile

Fire — Auto — Homeowners — Bonds — Life

Accident & Health — Hospital — Mortgage

NOW ACCEPTING 1977 AUTO APPLICATIONS

786-3535

269 Walnut St.

Agawam, Mass.

FEEDING HILLS HARDWARE

"THE LITTLE STORE WITH THE BIG INVENTORY"

WINDOWS & SCREENS REPAIRED

It will pay you to see us for all of your hardware needs

VILLAGE SHOPS, SPRINGFIELD ST. 786-9103

DAYGA PRINTING INC.

662 SPRINGFIELD ST. FEEDING HILLS, MASS. 01030

(413) 786-1226

Creative Printing Services

Fine Printing

Every Time...

for Every Need

B. EDWARD DAHDAH

IT'S THE TRUTH

advertising in the

Advertiser

brings results

SHERRY ANN STANTON WEDS



Miss Sherry Ann Stanton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold O. Stanton of 87 Anthony Street, Agawam was married recently at the First Baptist Church to Leslie Alan Bessette, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert E. Bessette of 523 Franklin Street Extension.

Officiating at the 1:00 p.m. service was Reverend Donald B. Morris with organ music by Mrs. Ruth Daniels. Miss Laura Hardina of Agawam, was Maid of Honor and Thomas Caccarini also of Agawam was best Man.

Both bride and groom are graduates of Agawam High School. She has studied at the Hartford Conservatory, The College of Marin in Fairfax, California and the Arthur Murray Dance Studios in San Anselmo, California where she is a senior instructor. Mr. Bessette is employed by the Allen Delivery Service in San Francisco.

After a reception at the Suffield Inn the couple left for a short trip to Cape Cod before returning to Fairfax, California where they will reside.

Patrick Meade Recent Navy Enlistee

Patrick R. Meade, son of Mrs. Francis J. Meade of 252 Silver Street, Agawam, MA enlisted in the U.S. Navy for four years 27 August, 1976 with a Sigalman class "A" (basic) school guarantee and is undergoing nine weeks recruit training at naval recruit training center, Orlando, Florida.

Seaman Recruit Meade is following family tradition; his brother James, chief boatswain mate with approximately 18 years naval service is a recruit company commander at Naval Recruit Training Center, Orlando, Florida.

Seaman Recruit Meade is a 1976 graduate of Agawam High and was enlisted into the navy by Chief Petty Officer Bill Charon the local navy recruiter at 74 Elm Street, Post Office Building, West Springfield.

Navy signalmen, a vital link in shipboard communications, are responsible for the exchanging of ship-to-ship and ship-to-shore messages.

SOMETHING NEW IN AGAWAM!!! ACME AUTO SUPPLY & ACME FOREIGN 303 WALNUT ST., AGAWAM, MASS. TEL. 733-5163 (OPPOSITE BETTY'S TOWNE HOUSE) BIG THINGS ARE HAPPENING TO IMPORTED CAR PARTS

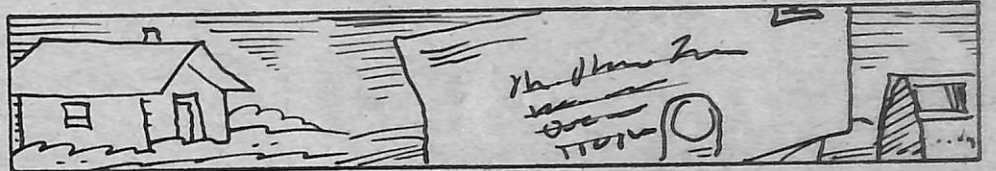
"A Complete Line of Foreign & Domestic Parts"

The same people who have been serving you

for the past several years ...

MANAGER: DICK GROSS — SALESMAN: FRANK NOWAK

COUNTERMEN: BOB AUSTIN — RON ROBINSON



Americans started to use zip codes on letters and packages in 1963. ZIP stands for Zone Improvement Plan.

SENIOR BOWLING

AUGUST 17, 1976

Belle Nygren	103
Jack Thompson	105
Stan Nygren	106
Lee Foster	107
Fiore Cavalleri	113

AUGUST 24, 1976

Helen Lenihan	100
Bob Foster	100
Bill McEwan	101
Marge Moors	103
Mary Demersky	103
Paul Reynolds	106
Stan Nygren	103
Lee Foster	115
Jack Thompson	132

AUGUST 31, 1976

Paul Reynolds	100
Jack Sweeney	109
Ted Therrien	100
Stan Nygren	108
George Phaneuf	100
Bob Foster	104
Mary Demersky	109
Lew Moors	102
Cecile Phaneuf	120
Jack Thompson	110
Ken Decker	118

Philip Metzger Joins Navy

Philip E. Metzger, son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Metzger of 245 Elm Street, Agawam, MA enlisted in the U.S. Navy 30 August, 1976 for four years in the seaman specialties field.

Seaman Metzger is undergoing three weeks naval orientation at Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. Upon completion of naval orientation he will receive on the job training and further assignment with the fleet in the seaman specialties field.

Prior to his enlistment into the U.S. Navy Seaman Metzger honorably completed a three year enlistment in the U.S. Army and was enlisted into the navy by Chief Petty Officer Bill Charon, the local navy recruiter at 74 Elm Street, Post Office Building, West Springfield, MA.

ACE AUTO BODY

MONEY'S TIGHT! Fix up your car and make it look like new again.

One Stop Service for BODY WORK
PAINT, GLASS & WINDSHIELDS REPLACED
SEAT COVERS & CARPETING

1363 MAIN ST. AGAWAM **781-2519**

AGAWAM PHARMACY

713 MAIN ST.—NEXT TO POST OFFICE
OPEN MON.-FRI. 8-8 7 DAYS PER WEEK
SAT.-SUN. 8-6 INCLUDING HOLIDAYS

WE OFFER AS ALWAYS
TO OUR REGULAR CUSTOMERS
24 HOUR SERVICE

FOR AFTER HOUR EMERGENCY
PRESCRIPTIONS CALL AGAWAM POLICE

VISIT OUR EXTENSIVE
GREETING CARD • GIFT WRAP
STATIONARY & PARTY GOODS
• FEATURED BY

AMERICAN GREETINGS

FREE PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY

PLAY THE NUMBERS GAME HERE



Welcome BACK

SCHOOL BANKING BEGINS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th in AGAWAM, WEST SPRINGFIELD

EVERY TUESDAY is Bank Day for students of Agawam and West Springfield, including WEST SPRINGFIELD HIGH. And remember...school savings earn daily interest at our regular dividend rate of 5¼%.



Westfield Savings Bank



141 ELM STREET
WESTFIELD

DRIVE-IN OFFICE
26 ARNOLD STREET
WESTFIELD

206 PARK STREET
WEST SPRINGFIELD

655 MAIN STREET
AGAWAM

AGAWAM WOMEN'S CLUB

The Agawam Women's Club will hold its first meeting of the season Sept. 27 at 8 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House. The guest speaker for the evening will be Mr. Frederick Wackerbarth a noted authority on wild foods of the forest. Mr. Wackerbarth is very active in the Boy Scouts of America and resides in Granville. He will speak on The Pyramids of Egypt. Special music will be under the direction of Mrs. Ralph Webster. The invocation will be given by Mrs. Raymond Alheim and hospitality will be under the direction of Mrs. Charles L. Martenson and her committee.

Officers for the 1976-77 season include: Mrs. Clifford K. Catchepaugh, President; Mrs. Stanley C. Fuller, First Vice-President; Mrs. Bruno Maule, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Joseph Masciotra, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Barbara Briggs, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Richard Longtin, Treasurer; Mrs. Ursula O'Neill Assistant Treasurer; Mrs. Victor J. Shibley, Mrs. Raymond Alheim and Mrs. Richard August, Directors.

Appointed chairmen include: Mrs. Donald B. George Jr., Mrs. Arlan Goss and Mrs. Fred LaPlace Trustees of Scholarship Funds; Miss Jean Goss, Auditor; Mrs. Clifford D. Pond, Federation Secretary; Mrs. Wendell M. Gosse, Historian; Mrs. Gordon P. Wallace, Parliamentarian; Mrs. John C. Tate, Mrs. Lewis S. Kalesnik, and Mrs. Joseph Masciotra Counselors to Agawam Junior Women's Club.

Committee Chairmen include: Mrs. Kathleen G. Wright, Community Improvement; Miss Ruth A. Perry, Friendship Teas; Mrs. Arthur J. Fuchs, Home Life; Mrs. Richard August, Hospitality; Mrs. Raymond Alheim, Meetings and Devotion; Mrs. Bruno Maule, Membership; Mrs. Ralph Webster, Music; Mrs. Harry N. Abell Jr. and Mrs. Fred LaPlace, Nominating; Mrs. Stanley C. Fuller, Program; Mrs. Donald B. George Jr. Public Affairs; Mrs. Victor J. Shibley, Publicity and Mrs. Kenneth W. Pond, Veterans Service.

The regular meetings of the club will be held on the fourth Monday of the month. The club will enjoy a variety of interesting and enjoyable programs throughout the year. All monies realized from fund raising events will be used for Local and Federation Philanthropies. The Agawam Women's Club is open to all women of Agawam. We welcome all whom are interested in joining to contact Mrs. Bruno Maule at 39-5780.

The Agawam Women's Club president Mrs. Clifford Catchepaugh has announced the club will hold its annual craft show at the Agawam Middle School on Springfield Street, Oct. 16 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Craftsmen and artists of the area will demonstrate their skills and display their crafts. All articles will be for sale. There will also be a home baked food table and a snack bar in operation. Any craftsmen and artists interested in displaying their works should contact the chairman Mrs. Claude Ouellette, Florida Dr. before Sept. 20.

Rep. Connelly Arranges Auto Insurance Panel

Representative Edward W. Connelly has arranged for a group of panelists representing the Independent Insurance Agencies of Springfield to participate in an open meeting for the purpose of reviewing the Massachusetts Auto Insurance Reform legislation. The panel will meet for the purpose of supplying answers to questions regarding the new insurance requirements beginning in January, 1977. The meeting will be held on September 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Agawam Junior High School building. All members of the public are invited.

NOTES, COMMENT

Never expect good luck to make up for loafing.

Money is pretty expensive when it gets scarce.

Buying for cash is a good way to keep your debts paid.

In our opinion teachers and policemen are underpaid.

The truth hurts people who do not like to face facts.

The key to happiness in life lies in unselfishness.

Young things sometimes take football too seriously, but they enjoy it.

The span of life is too short for any man to learn enough to brag about.

Our own experience is that time, when allowed to work, will solve many problems.

Too many political speakers appeal to the emotions rather than the intellect.

THE ADVERTISER

Published Monthly

662 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills, Ma.
786-7747, 786-8078
Free Distribution to
Agawam, Feeding Hills
W. Springfield, Southwick,
Suffield, Conn.

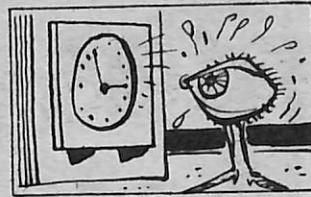
Andrew G. Gallano, Editor
Virginia Grenier, Adv. Mgr.
Gordon Smart, Advertising
William Keogh, Photography

Application to mail at controlled circulation rates is pending at Feeding Hills, Ma.

First Aid For Eye Emergencies



Speck of dirt in the eye? Lift the upper eyelid outward and down over the lower lid. Let tears wash out specks or particles. If the speck doesn't wash out, keep eye closed, bandage lightly and see a doctor. Never rub the eye.



Eye damage from chemicals may be extremely serious, particularly from alkalis, caustic acids, or other strong irritants. Open the lids wide and flood the eye with water immediately, gently and continuously for at least 15 minutes.



For cuts and punctures of eye or eyelid The National Society for the Prevention of Blindness recommends that you should bandage lightly and see a doctor at once. Do not wash eye with water or try to remove objects stuck in eye.



For a free sticker for your medicine cabinet telling you what to do in case of eye emergencies write to The National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, SN, 79 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10016.



A baby rattlesnake at birth has as much venom as a full-grown rattler.

Locals Visit Italy & D.C.



WASHINGTON, D.C., September 1, 1976 — U. S. Rep. Silvio O. Conte, R-Mass., was on hand at the Capitol to greet the Walter Balboni family of 188 Walnut Street, Agawam, and a visitor to the Balboni home from Italy, Miss Rita Moggi, on their recent visit to Washington, D.C. From left to right are John Balboni, Miss Moggi, Congressman Conte, Mrs. Balboni, and Mr. Balboni.

TUFF-KOTE DINOL RUSTPROOFING COUPON

\$10 OFF

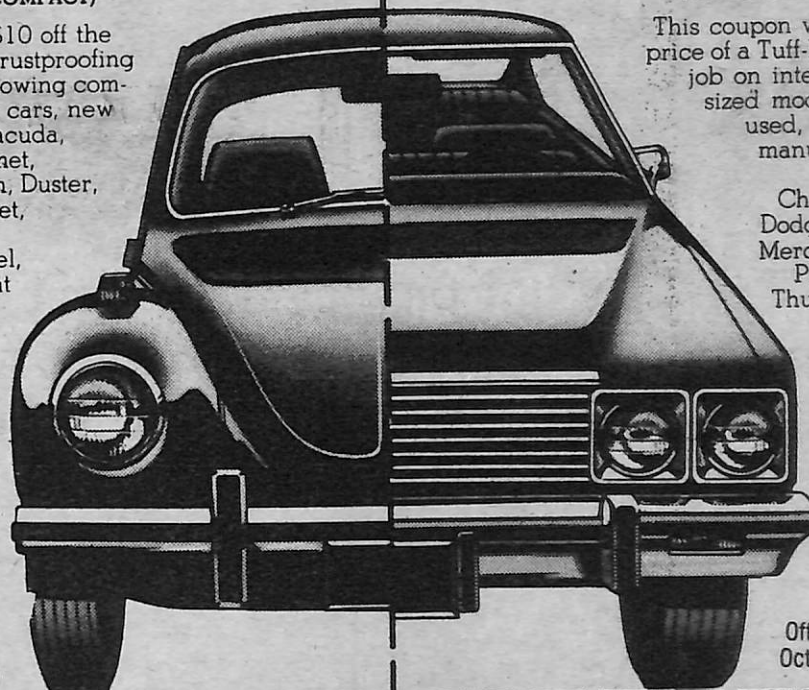
SMALL CAR RUSTPROOFING

(SUB-COMPACT AND COMPACT)

This coupon worth \$10 off the price of a Tuff-Kote rustproofing job on any of the following compact or sub-compact cars, new or used: Audi, Barracuda, Camaro, Capri, Comet, Cougar, Dart, Datsun, Duster, Fiat, Gremlin, Hornet, Javelin, Maverick, Mustang, Nova, Opel, Pinto, Toyota, Valiant Vega, Volvo, VW. For models not listed, call your Tuff-Kote Dinol Dealer.

\$10 OFF

Offer Expires Oct. 23, 1976



TUFF-KOTE DINOL RUSTPROOFING COUPON

\$15 OFF

BIG CAR RUSTPROOFING

(INTERMEDIATE AND FULL SIZE)

This coupon worth \$15 off the price of a Tuff-Kote rustproofing job on intermediate or full-sized model cars, new or used, of the following manufacturers: AMC, Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, Chrysler, Dodge, Ford, Lincoln, Mercury, Oldsmobile, Plymouth, Pontiac, Thunderbird, (except 1954-57 models.) For models not listed, call your Tuff-Kote Dinol Dealer.

Offer Expires Oct. 23, 1976

\$15 OFF

Cut a hole in this page and prevent holes in your car.

Right now you can save \$10-\$15 on the only process guaranteed to save both new and used cars from rust. Tuff-Kote Dinol Rustproofing. Only Tuff-Kote uses an exclusive penetrant to kill the rust that's already there — and an aluminized sealant to keep rust from ever starting again. No other rustproofing process works as well. None!

Whether you're a small-car owner who plans to keep his car for a long time, or a big-car

owner who can't afford to sell his car for a while, you can't make a better investment than Tuff-Kote Dinol.

Drive this coupon to Tuff-Kote before our offer expires, and before any more rust develops. Waiting can only cost you money.

If you own a used car, we're the only one who can effectively rustproof it. If you own a new car, we're the only ones who should. And we guarantee them both.



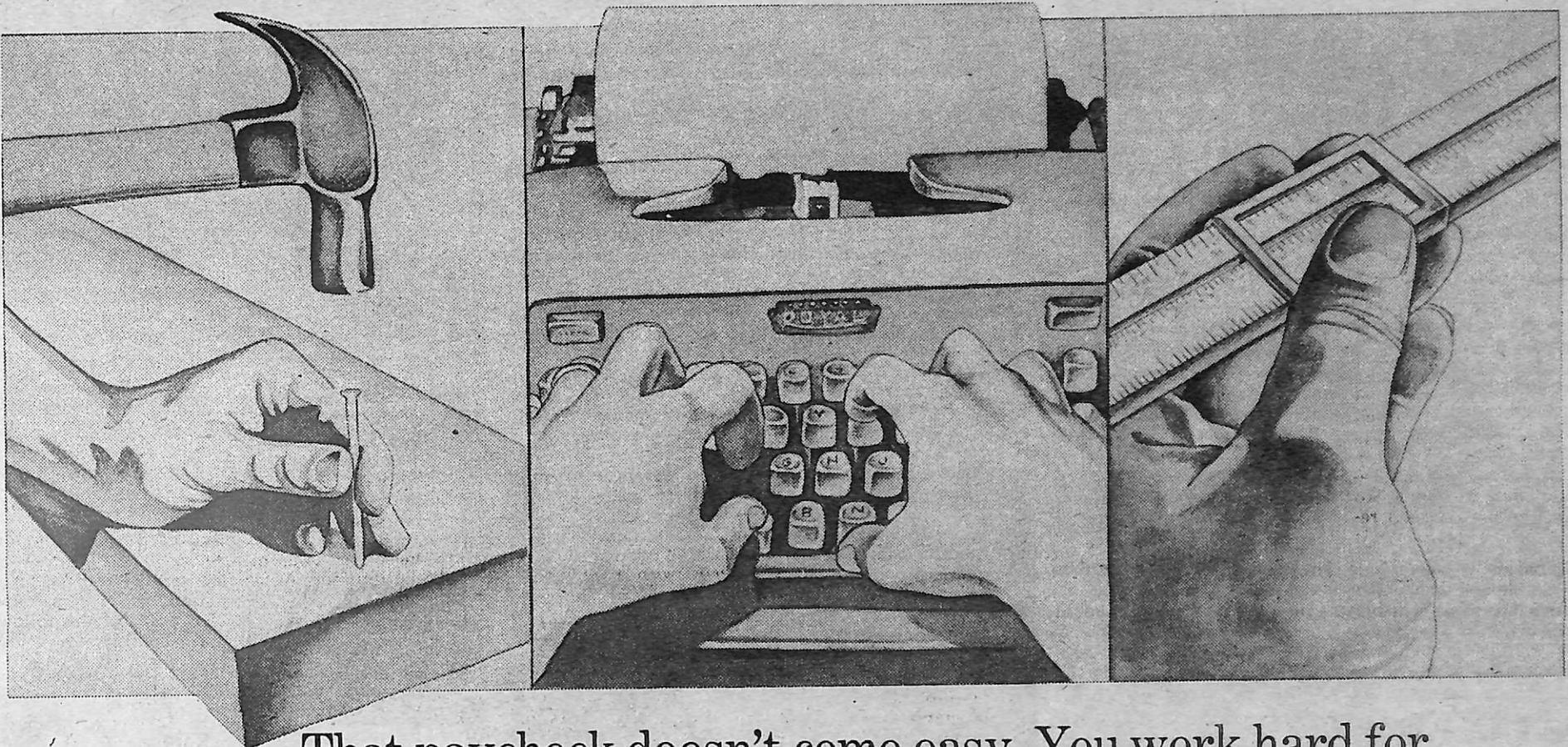
Our two-step rustproofing is one better.

© 1976, Tuff-Kote Dinol, Inc.

Tuff-Kote Dinol Automotive Rustproofing
55 New Bridge St., West Springfield/736-8389

"Directly behind Sear's Tire Store on Memorial Ave."

Put your money where it will work as hard as you do. In our 76 Account.



That paycheck doesn't come easy. You work hard for the money you make. Too hard not to get the most for it. And that includes the interest on your savings.

So open an S.I.S. 76 Account. A \$1000 (minimum) Certificate of Deposit that reaches maturity in four years, it pays 7.25% interest annually.

Hard work pays off. Especially when your money is in an S.I.S. 76 Account. Stop by any of our 17 offices in Greater Springfield and ask for details.

Type of account	Annual interest rate	Effective annual yield*
4 YEAR CERTIFICATE** min. dep. \$1000	7.25%	7.62%

*When dividends are left to compound daily. **Note: Certificates cannot be redeemed before maturity. However, should you require funds, S.I.S. will provide a loan up to the full amount of the principal at a special bank rate.

 **Springfield Institution for Savings**
The most for your money.

SIGNS "DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE"



L-R: Mrs. Gloria Berard, Assistant Branch Manager of the Feeding Hills branch of Western Bank & Trust Co. signs facsimile of the Declaration of Independence while sons Kenneth 7, Stephen 13, and Alan 14 look on. Photo by Bill Keogh

Park West Bank and Trust Company, created through the recent merger of Western Bank and Trust Company and Park National Bank, is offering an area "first and only": an opportunity for people to reaffirm in a personal way their belief in the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

By means of a Bicentennial project — known as "We the People of 1976" — Western Massachusetts families may sign their own names to a facsimile of the Declaration of Independence containing an additional paragraph, below the names of the original signers, restating the new signers' commitment to our American ideals.

Families signing this special facsimile are encouraged to pass it on to their grandchildren. In this way, it is felt that future generations will know that their families were part of our country's 200th birthday celebration.

"Even more meaningful," stated WESTBANK president, William A. Franks, Jr., "is the opportunity to perpetuate our principle of the supremacy of the individual during our country's third century."

Contrary to popular belief, the only person to sign the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 was John Hancock, who was President of the Continental Congress. July 19, 1776, according to the Library of Congress, is the date when the Continental Congress ordered the engrossing of the declaration. It was signed by the majority of the founding fathers on August 12, 1776 and not in an assembled body as depicted in John Trumbull's famous painting.

The last to sign was Thomas McKean of Delaware, whose name was not placed on the document before 1777, and possibly as late as 1781.

While the ultimate aim of the document is for families' archives, it can be readily framed and displayed in the meantime.

Franks said, "We at WESTBANK feel that it is fitting for our newly-created independent hometown bank to offer this unique reproduction of the Declaration of Independence to all our townspeople."

Copies are available, free of charge, at all of Park West Bank and Trust Company's offices in West Springfield, Feeding Hills and Holyoke.

Second Bull Run

The most costly war ever fought by Americans was the Civil War, not the world wars, and ironically, two major battles occurred at the same place in the first two years of that conflict.

In 1861, the opening of the four-year war, the Confederate Army routed the U.S. Army at Bull Run (Manassas). It was in this battle that General "Stonewall" Jackson earned his nickname. Federal troops were so shattered they panicked. The Confederate Army—had it been better disciplined—could have seized Washington that July.

In August, 1862, the U.S. Army tried again but once again Generals A.P. Hill and Jackson won a victory—this time under General Robert E. Lee. This southern victory tempted the South to invade the Union and led to the battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg) in September of that year (1862).

So Bull Run, where Confederate armies had defeated first Gen. Irwin McDowell and Gens. Nathaniel Banks and John Pope, 114 years ago this month, influenced Confederate leaders to invade the North.

That decision is still debated. The South was fighting for independence. Was a northern invasion the right psychological strategy? Similarly, should Southern troops have fired on Fort Sumter and the U.S. flag—thus stirring the passion and emotion outside the South, enabling Lincoln to raise an army to invade Dixie?

NEWS REPORT FROM WASHINGTON

The Polls—
Ford's Improvement—
Carter's Problem—
His Assets—

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Between late July and late August President Ford cut Jimmy Carter's opinion poll lead from 62-29 (Gallup) to 39-29 (Gallup). Other polls showed Ford as close as 46-40 after the G.O.P. convention.

This improvement was highly encouraging to President Ford and his new team headed by James Baker. They know they could win the election even if they trailed in the polls on election day by as little as six points.

Polls are not exact and can have changed several points by the time published. Also, a presidential candidate can win in the electoral college with fewer votes than his opponent.

Thus Ford need not lead in the polls to win his own four-year term in the White House. But the polls should indicate a rather close race if Ford is to win. For many years now the candidate leading in the polls has won. The polls are therefore taken dead seriously.

Ford headquarters think Jimmy Carter is vulnerable in two major areas. They think he has made contradictory statements in win-

ning the primary struggle and they feel he is not a public speaker of the caliber needed to rally the masses.

Carter, as the early heavy favorite, faces an image and speaking task, plus a debating challenge made formidably by the fact that the President will be much better briefed. The President has enjoyed over two years in the White House with daily conferences on all major issues with experts involved in those areas.

Carter's early lead could turn into a momentum problem or a psychology problem. Having been expected to win so big if the gap gets narrower and narrower the momentum will definitely appear to be on Ford's side.

But Carter still has tremendous assets—a much bigger party, a unified party making a good registration effort, and his own evangelistic image and all-out campaign. In the end his success may depend on whether Americans feel more confident about him, his ability to accomplish promises, or Gerald Ford.

LIKE MOTHER, LIKE SON



(U.S. Army Photograph)

Specialist 4 Jeanne Allen wants the private to look just right. That's because he's her son, John. The 34-year-old mother and her 17-year-old offspring are stationed at Fort Sill, Okla., where he fights fi s and she makes sure his fire fighting equipment is in top repair.

Golden Gleams

To live well is to work well, to show a good activity.

—Thomas Aquinas.

They must hunger in frost that will not work in heat.

—John Heywood.

What is the use of health, or of life, if not to do some work therewith?

—Thomas Carlyle.

Good work makes beautiful things, and good work lasts.

—Lord Dunsany.

The sum of wisdom is, that the time is never lost that is devoted to work.

—R.W. Emerson.

MAIDEN VALLEY FARMS FARM FRESH POULTRY AND EGGS DAILY

• CUSTOM CUT PARTS •

236 NO. WESTFIELD ST., FEEDING HILLS

FOR ORDER PHONE 734-6359

MON.-SAT., 9-6 • SUN., 10:00-3:30

STEVEN'S TRAVEL, INC.

Suite 206, 380 Union St.
West Springfield, Mass.

Your Pleasure Is
Our Business!

785-5301

LOUISE D. STEVENS
PRESIDENT

LOCKSMITH
YOUR KEY MAN FOR COMPLETE SERVICE
W.C. RACKLIFFE & SON, INC.
LOCKSMITHS & SECURITY EXPERTS
DIAL 786-0429
392 WALNUT ST. EXT.
AGAWAM SHOPPING CENTER

Memorials of Bronze or Granite



- Monuments
- Bronze Plaques
- Markers



HERITAGE SALES, INC.

PAUL S. GALASKA

90 Industrial Lane
Agawam, Massachusetts 01001
AREA CODE 413 786-1112

HOLLY'S DANCE STUDIO

379 WALNUT ST. EXT., AGAWAM

11 YEARS TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TAP • BALLET • TOE
MODERN JAZZ

★ ★ ★
ACROBATICS

MISS BARBARA NORTUP
EXPERIENCE

- ★ OUTSTANDING YMCA GYMNAST
- ★ WESTERN MASS. HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPION
- ★ 4 YEARS COLLEGIATE GYMNAST

FOR INFORMATION & REGISTRATION
CALL

786-1917 OR 592-4917

SPORTSMEN'S
CORNER

By BILL CHIBA

The Nipmuc Rod & Gun Club hosted the United States Bare Bow National archery tournament this past weekend. The Agawam Bowmen club members made a respectable showing. 7 members took National awards in the heavy contested event. Ross Jablonski took 1st in the Jr. Boy 450 class; Bob Jackman scored 2nd in the Bowhunter 325 class in the Bowhunter 175 class; Brian Ouimette, 1st, John Rock, 2nd, and Jim Blair took 3rd. Bill Chiba, came in 2nd in the men's 325 class and his wife Edythe took 3rd in the women's 175 class.

A poll conducted by Decision Makers Information, Inc. The survey was carried out under the strictest scientific conditions; it casts serious doubts on the validity of the results of certain well-publicized polls covering the same subject.

(DMI), the prestigious Santa Anna, Cal., firm polled 1,538 registered voters concerning their opinions on gun control, crime control and individual liberties. The survey is particularly significant because it was specifically designed to gather public opinion without the use of suggestive and leading questions. Below is the results of the poll.

Fully half of the public thinks a national gun registration program would lead eventually to confiscation of guns by the government.

78% believe that the U.S. Constitution gives them "the right to keep and bear arms",

UNITED WAY
CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

PUTTING THE UNITED WAY ALL TOGETHER ... Vincent G. Martin, 1976 United Way of Pioneer Valley general campaign chairman and executive vice president of Milton Bradley (left) and also Gerald A. Asselin, 1976 Major Firms division chairman and vice president of the Moore Company (left center) give Roswell L. Derby (right center) 1976 United Way general campaign vice chairman and senior vice president of Community Savings Bank and also Whitney C. Stiles (right), 1976 Major Firms vice chairman and vice president of Shawmut First Bank and Trust Company their pieces of the 1976 United Way Campaign puzzle during the Major Firms Kickoff recently at Milton Bradley.

and 73% reject the notion that this right pertains only to the National Guard.

Americans overwhelmingly reject (71%) any law which would give police authority to decide who may or may not own a firearm.

78% of the public feel that neither of the two recent attempts to assassinate Pres. Ford could have been prevented by national handgun registration law, and 71% reject the idea that assassination attempts on public officials could be avoided altogether by banning the private ownership of handguns.

55% of those in firearm-owning households cited self-defense as one of the reasons they owned a firearm.

50% of all firearm-owning households contain at least one handgun.

73% of the public does not believe that a federal law requiring all guns to be turned in would be effective in

reducing crime.

Public knowledge of existing firearms laws is exceedingly poor. 84% believe that gun registration will not prevent criminals from acquiring and using handguns for illegal purposes.

N. H. Whitetail Plentiful

The winter of 1975 was kind to New Hampshire's deer herd according to the recently completed spring condition survey. Accidentally killed deer were examined and placed into one of six condition categories based on the percentage of fat present in the thigh (femur) bone. Of the eighty deer examined, seventy-four were in good or fair condition. This indicates that over-winter losses to the deer herd were minimal. The does coming into the fawning season were in particularly good condition.

The harvest should exceed 9,000 for the first time since 1968 this season.

NEWS

Of Education

UNUSUAL PROGRAM



In tiny El Salvador, where 32% of the national budget goes for education, new innovations in education are winning attention from U.S. educators.

Goal: Earning Skills

Three aspects of El Salvador's educational program are especially interesting.

1. Educational programs are designed to provide students with skills to earn a living.

2. Students who drop out of school can continue their

education by using the two national educational TV channels.

3. For the 60,000 young people now enrolled in the four universities, tuition is commensurate with each student's financial situation.

For youngsters who years ago might have faced a lifetime of menial drudgery at poverty wages, the new educational program is helping the country live up to its name. In Spanish, "El Salvador" means "The Savior."

We value your Business

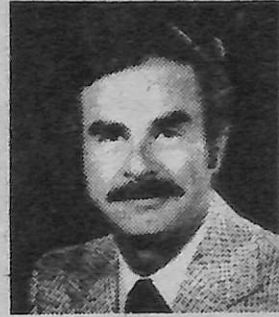
PETER COREY
PresidentCOREY
DODGE

ROUTE 5

ENFIELD

Spfld. 739-9632

Conn. 741-0734

BURT MASON
Vice President

A&P

FOR YOUR SHOPPING CONVENIENCE

OPEN
SUNDAY

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

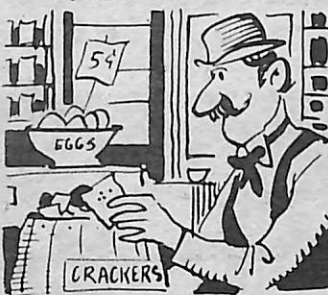
COME SEE

202

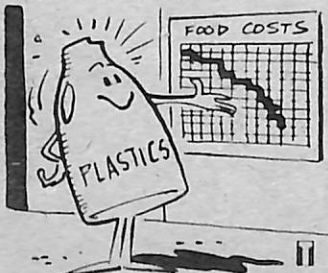
COME SAVE

Suffield Village
SUFFIELDSAVINGS GALORE
THROUGHOUT THE STORE

THEN and NOW!



Seventy years ago, before plastic packaging came into its own, Americans bought crackers out of a barrel and eggs from a crock, and spent about 40 percent of their disposable income on food.



Today, the American outlay for food is 16 percent of disposable income and the nation's food waste, according to the Department of Commerce, is at the lowest level in the world. By preventing spoilage, plastics such as widely-used polypropylene and other packaging have helped the food industry to reduce food costs by \$10 billion a year.

Holiday Boutique Class

1st SERIES • 2 WEEKS • \$3⁰⁰

Halloween Centerpiece

CALL OR COME IN & REGISTER

786-1309

AGAWAM ARTS & CRAFTS

610 Springfield St., Feeding Hills

SHARPENING SERVICE

ROTARY MOWER BLADES
BALANCED & SHARPENED ON

"BELSAW SHARPENER"

— ALSO —

Grass Clippers, Circular Saws, Scissors
Hedge Shears, Chain Saws, All Tools
Pinking Shears, Pruning Shears, Axes
Hatchets, Lopping Shears

All Tools Cleaned and Oiled with Sharpening

DON CAMPBELL'S
SHARP ALL SHOP52 Adams St. — Agawam, Mass.
786-8507

Looking at WASHINGTON Mexico

Events in Mexico are following an ominous path, so much so that in May thirty Congressmen appealed to President Ford to see what could be done. The President has responded positively and is aware of developments but there's a limit to what the United States can do.

What disturbs Americans is the recent placement of hundreds of non-Mexican Communists in government and journalistic posts. Mexico has a right to improve ties with the Communist countries but President Echeverria is suspect in lightly dismissing serious political demonstrations and terrorist attacks.

The recent change in the Mexican constitution threatening the legal foundation of private property is disturbing, as is the introduction of Castro textbooks into the schools.

There have been land seizures in Mexico, with no government interference, and there is much official class warfare talk and propaganda about collectivized farms. Heavy pressure is being brought on farmers to join collectives.

In short, it appears to many Mexico is on the path to Communism. It may be that the United States can do nothing to check this drift. But if Washington can, this is the time for planning, and perhaps action, to prevent the emergence of a large Communist nation on our southern border—with all the dire consequences that would likely produce.

The Search For Votes

Both major parties are searching for votes in this fall's presidential election by means other than persuasion on the issues. The Democrats are looking to youth organizations, blacks, Chicanos and minorities, primarily.

The idea is to get these minorities to register and vote. Traditionally they vote Democratic, some almost as a machine operation. Certain ethnic communities in metropolitan areas, Catholics, Jews, etc., have long been heavily Democratic. Blacks have voted as high as ninety per cent Democratic in some areas!

The key states Democrats are working are the big industrial states plus Missouri, Florida, Maryland and Texas. Republicans are mounting a similar operation, but different in approach and aimed primarily at getting out the traditional Republican vote.

Republican strategy places more emphasis on the telephone than on house calls and on urging those known to lean Republican to vote; there's limited emphasis on registration, that being left to state parties.

This strategy—on the national level and estimated to cost each party over \$3 million—isn't about the issues. But it can decide the election.

Some 55,000,000 Americans are unregistered. If most are disadvantaged, and favor Democrats as offering more federal aid, as claimed, results of the Democratic registration campaign, and the G.O.P. get-out-the-vote campaign, could determine the outcome.

Kissinger & Africa

As the most powerful and influential country of the free world, America, through its spokesmen, exerts an influence on events within other countries which is sometimes surprising.

The events in South Africa in recent weeks is an example. A series of terrorist killings and riots have engulfed that country for the first time in many years—and they followed closely U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's visit to Africa and his call for majority or democratic rule there.

A debate is now in progress between those who think the mass killings and bitterness have lessened chances for real progress in the area and those who view the riots and disorders as proof change must be more rapidly implemented. What disturbs some is that Kissinger was clearly trying to outbid the Communists with his overtures to blacks, a policy some feel is counter-productive and sure to forfeit southern Africa to Communist or hostile control if continued.

Who is responsible for the hundreds of dead, since Kissinger's trip? Is this forcing the South African Government to broaden the rights of blacks? There are indications, and concessions, which suggest this result. But it's also clear that a much greater expansion of democracy in South Africa today would be a highly dangerous experiment, as in most of Asia, and almost certainly would lead to chaos, radical rule and probably an anti-American, pro-Communist regime, precisely what the U.S. wants to avoid in this strategically-placed nation.

What the issue gets down to is whether U.S. diplomats should stir up riots and chaos in countries where democracy is not yet established. We are almost silent when this concerns black regimes but when white regimes are concerned, because of the world's colonial heritage and America's past discrimination against blacks, the issue becomes an emotional crusade; idealistic crusades, of course, are not always the policy best suited to the interests and security of the nation.

ADVERTISER CARRIERS WANTED



**EARN MONEY BY
DELIVERING THE
ADVERTISER ...**

**CARRIERS NEEDED FOR
THE FOLLOWING STREETS**

In North Agawam

SPRINGFIELD ST.
COLUMBUS ST.
ROWLEY ST.
NORTH ST.
NO. McGRATH TER.
BEGLEY ST.
MAPLE ST.
SUTTON PL.
OAK HILL AVE.
SPENCER ST.
HIGH ST.
PASADENA ST.
GEORGE ST.
HILLCREST ST.
HOWARD ST.
WILSON ST.
HARDING ST.
GRANT ST.
COOLEY ST.

WALNUT ST.
MOORE ST.
VALLEY ST.
COTTAGE ST.
CHURCH ST.
HIGH ST.
SPRING ST.
KING AVE.
RIVER ST.
KING ST.
OTTAWA ST.
BRIDGE ST.
TOWER TER.
HIGHLAND AVE.
MULBERRY ST.
ELLINGTON ST.
SCHERPA ST.
ORCHARD ST.
PROSPECT ST.

Phone 786-7747



Bloodhounds can detect a scent up to 10 days old!

M. CHMIELEWSKI SHOE SERVICE

60 SOUTH WESTFIELD STREET
FEEDING HILLS, MASS.

40 YEARS OF FINE SHOE REBUILDING
AND FITTING

Orthopedic Work Done
Zippers Replaced—Pocketbooks Repaired
New Men's Work and Dress Shoes
All Sizes — Widths up to 4E
Tingley Rubbers, Overshoes
Shoes Dyed

— HOURS OPEN —

THURS.-FRI., 6:30 P.M.-8:30 P.M.
SATURDAY, 9:30 A.M.-5 P.M.

Toomey-O'Brien

FUNERAL HOME



Our home has serviced Agawam families, in time of need, for nearly 100 years. The fine recommendations given us by these families has been our greatest asset. We, at Toomey-O'Brien appreciate this trust and pledge our continuing policy understanding and full service.

1043 WESTFIELD STREET
WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASS. 01089
Telephone 732-2278

MALONE'S FARM & GARDEN CENTER

Everything you need to prepare your
yard and garden for the winter.

Lime, Grass Seed, Fertilizer & Garden Tools

COME SEE! COME SAVE!
338 SILVER ST., AGAWAM, MA.—786-2246

Arthur W. Gallerani Edward D. Gallerani

THE PRESCRIPTION STORES

**ARTHUR
DRUG CENTER**
55 Springfield Street
Tel. 786-0600
HALLMARK CARDS

**EDWARD
DRUG STORE**
287 Springfield Street
Tel. 786-4100
RUSSELL STOVER CANDIES

TELEVISION REPAIR

NEWELL'S

TELEVISION SALES & SERVICE
374 PARK ST., W. SPFLD. 732-6810



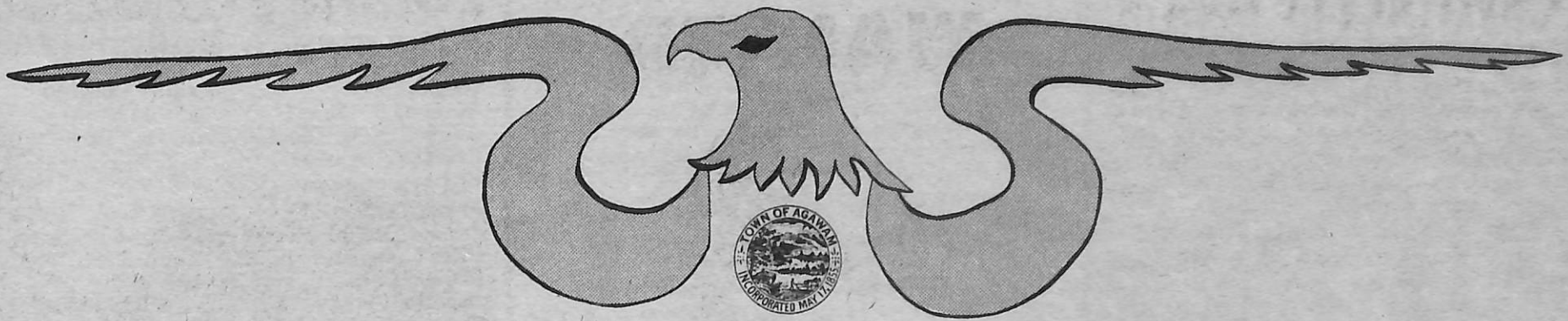
**FLOWERS
UNLIMITED**
668-0231

You don't need a special
occasion to send flowers,
just a special person.

"Flowers
do
it"

Arrangements
Starting at \$8⁰⁰

WE DELIVER TO
AGAWAM DAILY



AGAWAM ANNUAL REPORT 1975

TOWN COUNCIL



Valentine R. Moreno, Anita M. Davilli, Edmund D. Coffey, Kenneth J. Barnes, William B. Herd, Alfred D. Trehey, Floyd L. Landers, Joseph A. DellaGiustina, Jr., Richard M. Theroux (President), Paul M. Fieldstad, Robert

R. DeForge, Gino R. Rossi. Absent when picture was taken were: Frederick Nardi, Donald M. Rheault, and Arthur W. Kerr.

The year 1974-1975 was a year of challenge for the Town Council and The Town of Agawam.

The Council had numerous public meetings, work

sessions and hearings to insure that the Governmental Structure would run smoothly.

As the legislative body of the Town, the council enacted

ordinances as to Zoning, Health, and governmental.

The Council in the 1974-1975 Budget Year was mindful of the Town's needs and the Taxpayers ability to pay.

Knowing that the town must move forward, it approved a sound budget and a realistic five-year capital budget program.

There are many more

challenges that lay ahead, Citizens and the challenges of but I believe that the Council, the future.

Manager and the Employees of the Town will and can meet the needs of the

Richard Theroux-President

TOWN MANAGER

1974-75 continued to be a year of change. While the new government is now eighteen months old there are still many areas in which we are working to improve the Town's ability to deliver services to its residents.

The new Budgetary system for the operating budget has been fairly well established and we had begun, in conjunction with the Council, to take effective action on long-term fiscal planning through the use of an annual five-year Capital Improvement Program.

Inflation reached a record high during this year which caused us to adopt a very conservative program towards expenditures and a policy of not hiring any new personnel.

The Council approved plans for the construction and installation of sidewalks in several areas as recommended by the school.

We were, also, able to continue a strong program for construction of sanitary sewers such as the Three-Mile Pump Station and Force Main and the Feeding Hills Trunk Sanitary Sewer North #1. Both of these areas represented critical needs of the community. In addition we constructed storm sewers on Shoemaker Lane from Poplar Street to South Westfield Street, Silver Street in the Porter Hill Drive area and High Street from North Street to George Street.

The Water Department which had been placed on a self-sustaining basis the previous year, operated efficiently enough that we were able to propose two new water construction projects in the Meadow Street area and on Garden Street

to Poplar Street. Both of these were needed to improve the volume of water delivered to the residents and businesses in the area and served, also, to upgrade our fire protection in the community. These improvements were done at no cost to the taxpayer as the funds were derived from the revenue received for water service.

During the year the long-delayed Senior Citizens' Housing project, off Main Street, together with the Senior Citizens' Center was begun.

In conjunction with other communities in Hampden County, the Town participated in the Hampden County Manpower Consortium utilizing federal funds to provide employment for residents of the community. These programs allowed us to meet some of the personnel needs of the Town at no cost to the community, however, more important, we were able to utilize the personnel and funds available under these programs to accomplish some much needed work in the community.

The garage and storage areas to the rear of the Town Hall were converted into enclosed structures which allowed us to provide much safer and more effective storage areas for the various departments and a new testing station for the Sealer of Weights & Measures was constructed and the salt storage bin was relocated from the Town Hall grounds to the Dept. of Public Works area. Also, extensive repairs were made on all three Fire Stations and the Town Administration Building was painted on the outside.



JAMES D. WESTMAN
Town Manager

The Council approved funds which would allow us to conduct a study of the Police Department, its operation and needs which would serve as a guide for maximizing the effectiveness of the existing personnel and equipment.

This was a year in which we were able to consolidate some of the improvements initiated during the first eighteen-month period so that in future years we could move ahead to meet the ongoing challenges of providing the most effective, efficient and courteous service to the residents of the community within a tax structure which they can afford.

TOWN REPORT MAY BE SAVED BY REMOVING CENTERFOLD

TOWN CLERK



EDWARD A. CABA
Town Clerk

The year just concluded has brought to our attention some very interesting statistics. Unlike many of the communities around us where their population has indicated a significant decrease, ours continues to go upward. We have reached a total population unofficially of about 25,000.

It is interesting to note that our births recorded seem to be on a slight decline indicating that the increases in population are due to new residents settling in Agawam.

We are now in the process of setting up guide-lines whereby the public will be able to review public records and obtain copies if they desire to do so. These guide-lines will cover all offices in the administration building. New fee schedules will be established and upon approval of the Town Solicitor they will be announced and posted. Requests for birth, death and marriage certificates are a routing matter which can be complied with immediately in most cases, upon request. Persons desiring a birth, death or marriage certificate can call the office and it will in most cases be ready for you on arrival at the office with the fee.

Telephone is 786-0400 - extensions 26, 27 or 38.

The following is the report of vital statistics recorded for the period January 1, 1975 to December 31, 1975.

BIRTHS	234
MARRIAGE INTENTIONS	245
MARRIAGE LICENSES ISSUED	232
MARRIAGES	251 (Est. not all returned)
DEATHS	259
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS RECORDED	299
TERMINATIONS	72
BUSINESS CERT. RECORDED & COPIES	103
DOG LICENSES ISSUED	1987
Males	1023
Females	215
Spayed Females	750
Kennels	15

SPORTING LICENSES ISSUED	3175
RECORDING FEES	\$6,948.40
POLE LOCATIONS	84.50
GAS STORAGE PERMITS	1,345.00

On behalf of my staff, I want to thank the Town Council, Town Manager, Town Departments and all of our Townspeople for the fine co-operation we have received. It is my sincere hope that the same warm feeling of cooperation and trust will continue.

OFFICE HOURS

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS

Town Clerk	Edward A. Caba
Town Collector	David C. Gallano
Town Treasurer	David C. Gallano
Town Accountant	Carol Taylor
Acting Chief of Police	Romeo Borgatti
Safety Officer	Stanley Chmielewski
Chief of Fire Department	Harry W. Schneider
Supt. of Public Works	Leonard Belcher
Town Engineer	John Stone
Building Inspector	Joseph Conte
Plumbing Inspector	George Draghetti
Electrical Inspector	Alfred Gallerani
Parks & Recreation	John W. Kunasek
Tree Warden	Elmer Cascio
Civil Defense	Arthur Zavarella
Veteran's Service Agent	John McCarthy
Conservation Commission Director	Dorothy A. Nelson
Dog Officer	Douglas Jenks
Librarian	Shirley Richard
Health Officer	Dale D. Karnes
School Maintenance Director	Julian L. Midowski
Data Processing Director	Frederick Messier
Council on Aging Director	Margarete Taegar
Span Center Director	Dr. Sam Femiano
Inspector of Weights & Measures	Louis D. Draghetti
Consumer Complaint Investigator	Louis D. Draghetti
Cable TV Liaison Officer	Louis D. Draghetti
Town Solicitor	Jay A. Posnik
Town Prosecutor	Victor E. Govoni

TOWN DIRECTORY

Incorporated May 17, 1855
Population 1975 Census - 24,305

United States Senators
Edward W. Brooke
Edward M. Kennedy of Boston

Representative in Congress
First Congressional District
Silvio O. Conte of Pittsfield

Councilor
Eight District
Theodore E. Dimauro, 43 Tallyho Drive, Spfld.

State Senator
Hampden, Berkshire District
Alan D. Sisitsky, 54 Draper St., Spfld., Mass.

Representative to the General Court
Third Hampden District
Edward W. Connelly, 565 River Road, Agawam, Mass.

TOWN COUNCIL

Councilmen at Large
Robert R. DeRorge 63 Clematis Rd.
Floyd L. Landers 907 North Street
Valentine R. Moreno 15 Florida Drive

PRECINCT MEMBERS

Prec. 1
Anita M. Davilli 229 North Street
Frederick Nardi 575 North Street
Prec. 2
Arthur W. Kerr 662 North West Street
William B. Herd 19 Cloverhill Drive
Prec. 3
Donald M. Rheault 436 Mill Street
Kenneth J. Barnes 22 Wrenwood Lane
Prec. 4
Gino R. Rossi 21 Fairview Street
Richard M. Theroux (Pres.) 23 Woodside Drive
Prec. 5
Joseph A. DellaGiustina, Jr. 178 School Street
Edmund D. Coffey 47 South Florida Drive
Prec. 6
Paul M. Fieldstad 7 Oxford Street
Alfred D. Trehey 30 Ridge Avenue

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Venetia L. Snyder 10 Strawberry Hill Road
Walter A. Balboni 188 Walnut Street
Thomas J. Ennis 76 Arnold Street
F. Joseph Napolitan 817 Shoemaker Lane
Roberta G. Doering 915 River Road
Jessie D. Fuller 61 Peros Drive
Richard F. Borgatti 179 Franklin St.

TOWN MANAGER

James D. Westman 769 Main Street

MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Town Council shall be held on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Monday evening at 8:00 P.M., except there shall be only one meeting a month during the months of July and August, such meetings shall be on the first Monday.

School Committee — Second and Fourth Tuesday of Month - 6:30 P.M.

Planning Board — First and Third Thursday of Month - 7:30 P.M.

Board of Assessors — Daily 9 A.M. - 12 P.M., evenings by appointments only.

	Telephones
Town Hall	786-0400
School Department	786-5818
Junior High School	786-6211
Senior High School	786-3152
Police Department	786-4767
Fire Department	786-1241

COMMITTEES

AGAWAM HOUSING
Frank Chriscola, Jr.
Douglas Daubney
Raymond E. Charest
James T. Bava (Deceased)
Roland A. Corriveau

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Charlotte Haynes
Helen Lawrenchuk
Patricia Lloyd
Jean Moirano
Charlotte Watrous
Sophie Demko
Frank Hess
Norman McMahon
Janice Phillips
Emma Ricci
Peter Bartini
William Keogh
Eleanor Placzek
Geraldine Schilling
John Stone

BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Fred Affleck
Marcia Albano
Alda Bedard
Albert Bessette
Harry Camyre
Janet Clark
David Clouse
Marion Collins
Sylvia Deliso
Leonard Hood
Linda Kalesnik
Edith LaFrancis
Arthur Leary, Jr.
Mrs. Dale Melanson
Francis Milliken
Geraldine Schilling
Richard Scortino
James D. Thomas

BOARD OF APPEALS

John Juliano
Theodore Progulski
Jerry Zerra
Marcel Bedard
John Shaughnessy

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Rodolfo Altobelli
Frederick A. Drew
Raymond A. Saracino

BOARD OF HEALTH

James A. Doering, M.D.
Jessie Fuller
Jane E. Nunn
Fr. James Shea
James Thomas

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Edward A. Caba
Phyllis M. Mason
Richard J. Rieker
Leslie J. Moore

CEMETARY COMMITTEE

Richard Taylor
Douglas Bodurtha

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

George Fleming
Edward S. Nacewicz, Jr.
Dorothy Nelsen
Robert A. Scalise
Leon Alechny
Henry A. Kozloski
Ronald Lech

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Louis D. Draghetti
Stella Gallerani
Mrs. Lucy Gaunt
Dr. F. Milici
Paul Placzek

COUNCIL ON AGING

Rev. Floyd Bryan
Wilma Gillan
Claire Niemic
Daniel Binnenkade
Edith Larsen
Edward D. McMahon
Betty Mae Curran
Germaine Milliken
Aubrey Wells

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AUTHORITY

John Mikszewski
David C. Gallano
John Cardone
Joseph Lovotti
Albert Bonavita

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Thomas J. Collins
Fred Harpin
Skip Rising
Frank Sassarone
Carol J. Taylor

LAND NEEDS COMMITTEE

Walter Balboni
Edmund Coffey
Stanley Drewnowski, Jr.
George Hellquist
John Kunasek
Dorothy Nelsen
Ruth Zucco

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Sylvia Deliso
Paul Sutton
Alda Bedard
Norman McMahon
Priscilla Andrews
Richard Orr

LICENSING COMMISSION

John Shea
John Bartnik
Charles T. Marquis

PLANNING BOARD

Robert Bergin
Stanley Drewnowski
Steven Kitrosser
Arthur J. Fuchs
Natalie George

SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER STUDY COMMITTEE

Roland Corriveau
Frank Garde
Edward McMahon
Margarete Taegar
Mrs. C.B. Torrey

TOWN REPORT COMMITTEE

Louis D. Draghetti
Henry Lawson
Russell Jenks
Geraldine Schilling

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

During fiscal 1975, the major efforts of the Beautification Committee were concentrated on the development of the neighborhood park to the rear of the Brady Village Housing Project. A contest was conducted to name the park with Benjamin Wade Park being chosen from the numerous entries. Benjamin Franklin Wade was born in Feeding Hills and later became a United States Senator from the State of Ohio. Wade was president pro-tem of the Senate during the impeachment proceedings against President Andrew Johnson. If Johnson had been removed from office, Wade would

have succeeded him.

These grants and donations have given us a total of \$16,800 with which to develop the Park. Work to be accomplished include the construction of an arts and craft pavilion with storage and rest room facilities, the completion of the tot-lot play area, the construction of the entrance way and parking area, the installation of picnic tables, benches, and grills and the planting of shrubs and trees in the nature area. We hope to have this work completed by the Fall of 1976.

In an attempt to make Agawam a more attractive community, the Beautification Committee continued its

program of planting flowers and shrubs in various locations throughout Town.

To obtain funds to develop the Park, the Beautification Committee applied for two matching grants from the State's Bicentennial Commission. Both applications were successful. The first grant was for \$3,400 to match an equal amount raised from a \$1,125 donation from the Agawam Junior Women's Club, with the remaining \$2,275 coming from the Committee's funds. The second grant was for \$5,000, with a like amount being donated by the Agawam Lions Club to meet the local share requirement.

In the past year, a new planting area was installed at the corner of Poplar and Springfield Streets. Also, the Committee continues its recognition of those Town businesses and industries whose upkeep of their property contribute to the beauty of Agawam. In 1975, award certificates were presented to Farm Credit Bank of Springfield, Ken-Mar Tool, Inc., Ebtac Corporation, Zielinski Brothers Contractors, Agawam Burring and Finishing Company, National Gage and Die, Inc., Turcotte Mfg. Co., J.O. Young, Inc., Michael's, and Gentry Carpet Shop.

John P. Stone, Chairman
Beautification Committee

TOWN TREASURER



DAVID C. GALLANO
Town Treasurer-Collector

MUNICIPAL BORROWING

The appropriate role of municipal borrowing (the use of public credit) is essentially one of how local government capital expenditures should be financed, when they should be met from current or accumulated revenues and when from loans, which are in anticipation of future revenue. In the performance of some service functions for the town, expensive capital facilities are required and, unless they are available when they are needed and to the extent they are needed, substandard, financially wasteful performance is virtually inevitable.

To meet total operating and capital requirements as needed and also to provide for emergencies that may arise from time to time, there is likely to be considerable year to year fluctuations in the level of expenditures. But, the revenue system of our local government is neither very broad nor very flexible. To keep tax rates and charges fluctuating in a correspondingly wide range would be demoralizing to the taxpayer. The primary purpose of municipal borrowing, therefore, is to permit timely financing of needed expenditures without causing such fluctuations.

Judicious planning and management of municipal debt are inseparable from forward-looking overall financial planning and management for any town. These plans call for a quality of judgement and policy determination that comes only from sound understanding of the necessary programs and long-range objectives set by its management and legislative bodies.

The purposes for which towns or cities may borrow and the amounts of debt which they may incur are regulated by the General Laws of the Commonwealth. Some of these regulations are still influenced by the conviction of conservative civic leaders of a century ago, when local governments were having their first great fling at floating bond issues, that municipal indebtedness was evil and municipal borrowing a form of sin. But, within these legal restrictions, local governments generally have considerable range for the exercise of good judgement and foresight, or the opposite, in the formulation and execution of debt policy.

TEMPORARY BORROWING

Agawam, although operating with a balanced budget, has engaged regularly, over the year, in temporary borrowing helps to assure the uninterrupted functioning of the government operations and the regular and prompt payment of debt service and other fixed charges.

In the past, the regular use of temporary borrowing to finance operations arose primarily because the collection of revenue from taxes is not time to coincide with cash demands for expenditures. This lack of synchronization has occurred because the property tax did not become payable until the fiscal year was well advanced. However, with the advent of twice per year payments of property taxes to the municipalities by the taxpayers, as regulated by the legislature, requirements for temporary borrowing in anticipation of revenue by Agawam has been curtailed to a great extent and to the advantage of the town. Three years ago, the town borrowed in excess of two and one half million dollars. We anticipate that during the current fiscal budget period, we will not have to borrow any amount of money on a temporary basis.

LONG-TERM BORROWING

Long-term borrowing is used to finance the acquisition of land and/or capital improvements, construction of surface drains, sewers, sewerage systems, skating rinks, swimming pools, public ways, water systems, judgements and varied other items in the capital expenditure field.

THE BOUNDARIES OF SAFETY IN BORROWING

Basically, the issuance of bonds to fund accumulated operating deficits is not a justifiable purpose for long-term borrowing. This type of borrowing is known as deficit funding. How much debt the town may safely incur is not ascertainable by any precise formula. The answer depends on numerous factors, such as: the purpose for which the debt incurred, the town's economic characteristics, the town's prospects for economic stability, growth, and, the town's revenue system, the competence with which the debt is planned and managed and the supposition factor of the people's willingness to support the debt issued.

The 1975-76 fiscal year saw, for the first time since the change to the manager-council form of government four years ago, the implementation of the Manager's proposed capital expenditure program. Authorization for permanent bonding was approved by the Town Council for near-future construction of several much needed water pollution control sewer, drainage, and water projects.

Approved were projects on Shoemaker Lane, Deep Gutter, North Street, Three-Mile Brook, Sewerage Treatment Plant, Industrial Park Water Lines, and surface drainage in several areas around town. In addition, approval was granted by the Council to participate in the construction of the Senior Citizen Center.

Construction of these projects obviously will add an unavoidable cost to our bond debt. However, we consider expenditures of this nature to be necessary for the well-being of the citizens of Agawam and within the financial capability of the taxpayers.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT



JOSEPH J. CONTE
Building Inspector

The following report, the 1975 annual report of the Agawam Building Department, this past year, as in the previous year, found Agawam leading all communities in Western Massachusetts in construction of single family dwellings. We were responsible for 25% of all homes built in Hampden County. This past year 364 building permits were issued valued at \$5,587,755.00, of which 182 were for family units. It's fair to say that a unit is completed every other day. As I write this report my advance sheets indicate no relief in construction is due Agawam.

With the continued growth of our community and the added work load of the new State Building Code, which by an act of our legislature have mandated some 574 hours of public field work and an additional 313 office hours of paper work, our Building Department finds itself under a constant work load.

We were fortunate this past year in that the Federal Government assisted our department labor force in adding an Assistant Ordinance Officer, Mr. Dominic Urbinati. With the issuance of new restricting ordinances, population growth and a continued building boom, our assistant zoning officer has contributed to the enforcement of these new regulations and has relieved the Building Inspector to spend more time in field construction duties.

The name Building Inspector under present conditions does not define itself as to its responsibility to the community. Last year alone, the Building Office handled over 8,000 inquiries of town citizens, which dealt from a bird house to multi-million dollar complexes.

The Agawam Building Department is the nucleus for many future departments and is the common denominator in dealing with all walks of life in our community. There has been, and is an increasing growing responsibility, which at many times, calls for duties above and beyond what is allowed under the classification of Building Inspector.

The Building Department does serve all walks of life in protecting the health and safety for the citizens of the town. We will in the future, as in the past, be a common denominator to assist our citizens in promoting their safety, health and general welfare.

AGAWAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Agawam Housing Authority, through state subsidy, presently operates two low-income elderly housing projects consisting of 92 units under the Chapter 667 program and a veterans family housing project containing 44 units under Chapter 200.

Construction was begun in the Fall of 1975 on a third elderly housing project with a completion date set for the end of 1976. This project will consist of 64 garden type apartments to be contained in six buildings located off Wright St. Also contained within the project confines will be a new Senior Center facility which will be for the use of all senior citizens in Agawam.

To qualify for elderly housing a person must be at least 65 years of age, a United States citizen, of low income and in need of good housing. They may have assets of up to \$10,000. Income for a single person should not exceed \$4500 a year and for a couple, \$5,000.

To qualify for veterans family housing the head of the family must be a United States citizen, a veteran or family of a veteran, of low income and in need of decent and safe housing. There are income limits set according to family size.

This Authority wishes to thank the various departments in town for their kind assistance and cooperation throughout the years.

During the year 1975, nine new tenants were placed in elderly housing from 224 applications on file. Also, four new families were placed in the veterans project from 151 applications on file.

During the past year this Authority applied for additional funds from the Commonwealth under a Modernization Program which allowed us to re-roof eight buildings at the veterans project which now completes our program of new roofs on all 12 buildings at the 26-year-old J.J. Brady Village project. Also under the Modernization Program, we were able to paint the exteriors of all buildings at Colonial Haven. A new front door was installed on the Community Building and new exterior window shutters gave this nine-year-old project new life. The two remaining wooden buildings at Brady Village were given a new coat of paint and some exterior painting was done at 13-year-old Country View Apartments. For the past three years we have been remodeling bathrooms at Brady Village and hope to complete the remaining ones during the coming year.

This Authority wishes to thank the various departments in town for their kind assistance and cooperation throughout the years.

DOG OFFICER

I feel that it may be fitting in this bi-centennial year to bring to your attention our existing city ordinance regarding dog restraint which are, in reality, the extension of our former town by-laws. The annual town meeting of 1968, Article 115A, established a dog leash law for the first time in Agawam because town people could no longer tolerate the abuse of their property by their neighbor's dogs.

The basic restraint of dogs, specifically under our present city ordinance, is as follows: No person owning or keeping a dog in the town shall permit such dog to be at large in the town or elsewhere except on the premises of the owner or keeper unless it shall be on the premises of another person with the knowledge and permission of such other person. Such owner or keeper of a dog in the town which is not on the premises of the owner or keeper or upon the premises of another person with the knowledge and permission of such person shall restrain such dog by a chain or leash not exceeding six feet in length.

The only exception to this regulation will be that dogs may be exercised or trained off leash while under the control of their masters if such training or exercise is being conducted at a private sporting club or area located more than 500 feet from any dwelling. Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 140, Section 136 and Chapter 49A allows cities and towns to apprehend, confine, and dispose of dogs found by the officer or his duly authorized assistant. Violation of our dog ordinance is punishable of a fine of not more than ten dollars for each offense.

I hope dog owners will consider the provision of our ordinance for it will make it indeed easier for us to carry out our assignments, particularly, inasmuch as we are a part-time dog officer and we do sincerely appreciate the co-operation of dog owners and our citizens.

The Health Officer is drafting a supplemental to the dog leash ordinance, further regulations which will be presented before the council this year.

Douglas Jenks
Dog Officer

BOARD OF ASSESSORS



RUDY T. ALTABELLI
Chairman, Board of Assessors

If the 1960's was the era of new homes a year during the apartment construction, the first half of the 1970's.

During 1968 and 1969 a tax equalization program was conducted and put into effect as of Jan. 1, 1970 showing a taxable value of \$143,185,775. Agawam will have a total of 411 condominium units and 1,661 apartment units.

Keeping pace with the apartments and condominiums has been the construction of single family dwellings. In spite of the drastic reduction in the building of single family homes within the State and Nation, Agawam has continued to average over 100

Despite the increased work load that has resulted for the three part-time assessors and office staff, no new personnel has been added in the Assessors Office.

PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



JOHN KUNASEK
Director, Parks and Playgrounds

The Park and Recreation Department is dedicated to providing opportunities for leisure time activities for all residents of Agawam. Our goal is to promote and implement programs that develop and contribute to a well-rounded individual.

This past year the adult recreation programs have been very successful due to an increase in participants and a wide variety of activities offered. Fall and Winter programs included such activities as Belly Dance Instruction, Women's Fitness and Swim, Ballroom Dance, Adult Swim Instruction, Men's Basketball League, Women's Basketball League, Men's Recreational Volleyball, Self Defense, and Golf Instruction. Summer Softball Leagues for men and women continue to be successful and expansion occurs each season.

Future program development in the area of adult leisure activities will be in craft workshops, volleyball leagues, cross country skiing, hobby groups, and other nonathletic activities. We would appreciate any helpful suggestions and want to hear more ideas from everyone in the community.

The Recreation Department works with many Town organizations to help promote youth sports throughout the year. The adults working in these volunteer organizations are dedicated and enthusiastic coaches and leaders. We would like to thank these people for their selfless contributions because without their efforts the athletic programs could not be what they are today.

The role of the Recreation Department in relationship to the Agawam Athletic Association is to provide officials and schedules for the football, girls soccer, softball, baseball, and basketball leagues. We also furnish custodial fees for the AAA competitive swim team that has been newly organized.

There are many other Town organizations with which we also cooperate. We have worked with the Senior Citizens in organizing a swim program in the afternoons at the Junior High School pool. Ice time is provided for the Agawam Hockey Association and officials and schedules are furnished for the Agawam Soccer Association. The boys soccer program has seen tremendous growth this past year in participants and an instructional league for 6 and 7 year olds. The Season was capped with an awards presentation for all participants at the Agawam Junior High School Auditorium.

We offer swimming instruction throughout the year and all classes are conducted by certified Water Safety Instructors. Upon satisfactory completion of a course all children receive American Red Cross certification. Levels of instruction progress from Beginners all the way up to Advanced Lifesaving.

An ever increasing program has been the gymnastic and tumbling instruction offered on Saturday mornings. Each week 2 to 14 old boys and girls eagerly learn tumbling and apparatus techniques. Our plans for further programs in gymnastics include progressive levels of instruction and additional classes for the pre-schooler.

Our other programs for children include figure skating lessons at the Springfield Olympia and craft instruction. At the completion of the craft courses the children display their talent and crafts at the local banks. During November of '75 the first class displayed their work which was enjoyed by many.

Another new program which received very good attendance and interest was the open gym and pool program on Saturday evenings for Junior and Senior High School students. In addition we provided areas for recreational skating and hockey during the colder days of the year.

Our Summer Playground Program was again highly successful in terms of quantity and quality. There were over 1,000 children registered for the regular playgrounds and 100 children registered for the pre-school playground that expanded to three sessions, meeting twice a week. Highlights of playground activities included: A Talent Show, Bowling, Baton, Bicentennial Poster Contest, and more. The field trips went to Mystic Seaport, Look Park, Mountain Park, Santa Land, and a Field Day. Activities were based on a theme each week and provided the children with a variety of opportunities for an enjoyable Summer. Next year's program will have a Bicentennial Theme and field trips and activities will be coordinated with this theme.

The Summer program also included Tennis Instruction for adults and children. At the end of the Summer these prospective tennis enthusiasts participated in a town wide tennis tournament. Winners were presented with a trophy for their collection.

In the forthcoming Bicentennial year, our department will take part in organizing and promoting a special 4th of July bicentennial weekend with a fireworks display, parade, and a Town-wide field day which will be part of a community picnic. This weekend will offer the citizens of Agawam a large variety of interesting activities.

Other projects for the future include the development and implementation of a town survey to determine the interests and needs of all Town residents. With the results of this survey we hope to provide more service and develop a diversified recreation program for Agawam residents.

COUNCIL ON AGING



MARGARET TAEGER
Council on Aging

1975 was the best year in the life of our Senior Center. No doubt the highlight was the groundbreaking on October 10 for our beautiful new home, off of Wright Street. What has been a dream for so many years hopefully will now come true in 1976.

As in years past, the main concern of the Senior Center is for our lonely, handicapped and shut-ins. Our Community Aide has made 214 visits, helped 231 people to fill out and collect on their medical claims, apply for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income, has counseled, referred homemakers in case of illness or convalescence, and found chore workers for those who needed help with their homes. In addition, our Vista worker, Mrs. Cecilia Hyland, regularly visits the shut-ins.

A new 1975 Chevrolet Van seating 12 passengers was purchased under the Title III grant, saving time and gasoline by being able to transport a greater number of people per ride. Senior citizens have taken increasing advantage of the new bus and a record number of 7800 rides were provided.

Since our Meals-on-Wheels program has grown 40%, we use the old bus for delivering the meals. 1974 we brought 3957 meals to our shut-ins. This year the number has grown to 5943! Getting nutritious hot meals five days a week has been a vital importance to our sick, convalescing and handicapped people. Without this service many of them would have been unable to stay in their homes alone, but would have had to enter nursing homes.

The monthly hypertension clinic has become so popular that the nurses could no longer handle it in one session. So now we have it on the first AND third Wednesday of the month, and the number of participants keeps growing. Our nurses took 1,690 readings in 1975, representing a substantial savings for our elderly. The free Flu Clinic in September reached the record number of 413.

314 new Seniors signed up at the Center, and we hope that they will make full use of the free medical and social services offered, discover new friends and spend many happy hours here.

One of the new programs started this year is our Progressive Whist Card Party on Saturday nights. We have averaged six tables and have received a generous donation from this group toward the furniture drive for our new Senior Center.

The second new program was the continuation of our lunch program during school vacation. During the long summer months many people missed not only the good meal for .50¢, but also the friendly get together. The staff at the Center prepared a simple, but nutritious meal (413 meals at 13 settings). Although we received no federal or state subsidies, we were able to keep the price at .50¢. We are greatly looking forward to our kitchen facilities at the new Center, where we intend to cook approx. 150 meals five days a week.

With the cooperation of the Parks and Recreation Department and the School Department we started a swimming class at the Junior High school and soon had a group of 15-17 sports-minded seniors who became regular participants until the school closed in June.

We took eight bus trips this year, trying to offer something for everybody's taste. At the Chateau de Ville we saw "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Cactus Flower". In June and July we cheered the Red Sox at Fenway Park. Every one loved the Flower Show in Boston (2 buses!) with the delicious dinner at Pier 14. On popular demand we repeated our trip to Hampton Beach. The annual foliage trip went to Chesterwood and the Mohawk Trail, and in December we again went Christmas shopping in Framingham.

The yearly picnics at Robinson State Park and the Country View Housing were well attended and many stayed for the Bingo games with prizes. Agawam is truly fortunate to have such a beautiful park for its citizens.

The craft classes continue to be a great attraction. We did not have a bazaar this year, but are concentrating our efforts for the big fair on May 23 where we hope to raise the money for furnishing the new Senior Center. Mrs. Mary Brown's class did beautiful bead work in addition to the regular needlework. The always popular ceramic class under Mrs. Emaline Comeau is still going strong; also Mrs. Alice Hulse's oilpainting class. A new multicraft class was started by Mrs. Caroline Carrington and has grown steadily. The woodworking class has almost doubled since so many eager ladies have joined the gentlemen. Our very active Men's Club meets every Wednesday and Friday morning. Bowling at Riverside on Tuesday afternoons, and card games on Monday and Friday afternoons complete the social activities.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many organizations who have donated time, money and effort to organize parties for our Seniors: to the Sacred Heart Church for their dinner and bingo party on February 28th, an annual event everybody looks forward to. On May 18th the Lion's Club gave us a delicious Mother's Day dinner. The American Legion Auxiliary treated our Friday card players to two parties with refreshments and prizes. More than a hundred people attended the Christmas party hosted by the Junior

BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION REPORT

Monday, February 17, 1975 the presentation of the Bicentennial Flag to the town took place in front of the Town Hall. Presentation was made by Mr. Edward McCloghan, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Bicentennial Commission. A United States Marine Corps Color guard from the Naval Reserve Training Center, Springfield, Massachusetts raised the Colors. A Fife & Drum contingent of Agawam school children, under the direction of Mr. David Boldock played appropriate music.

A Bicentennial Flag was also presented to Mr. James Loomis, principal of Granger School, Feeding Hills. The grounds of Granger school were used as parade grounds during the Revolutionary War.

At the presentation Mrs. Andrea Burton was presented a bond for her winning design of the Town Bicentennial seal. Frances Milliken was presented a bond for his winning the towns Bicentennial slogan which is, "Celebrating the past, Cultivating the present, Challenging the Future."

A reception followed in the hearing room of the town hall hosted by the Agawam Jaycettes. On display for the first time were three commemorative items selected by the commission to commemorate America's Bicentennial: a maple thumb back chair with a picture of the Captain Charles Leonard House stenciled on the back slat (this chair is currently being sold for \$55.00 — limited edition — numbered 1 thru 100); a reproduction of the original Porter Gin Bottle selling for \$1.50 and Agawam's Bicentennial seal.

The Agawam Hockey Association was host to twelve teams from Canada April 12th and 13th at the Olympia. This was tied in with our Bicentennial celebration and the Commission supplied the medallions for each visiting teams most valuable player.

Our first "open-air" Bicentennial Art and Craft festival, under the chairmanship of Dale Melanson, was held during the week-end of June 7th and 8th. One-hundred and thirty exhibitors displayed their crafts on the green of Main Street, Agawam Center. The Captain Charles Leonard House was open to the public and guided tours were given of the house, courtesy of the Leonard House trustees. An exhibit of 18th century clothing and artifacts, under the chairmanship of Janet Clark, was shown in the Pine Room of the Captain Charles Leonard House. Approximately 10,000 people attended the festival.

On June 14th, two Bicentennial Flags were presented to Heritage Hall Retirement Home. A Bicentennial tea and fashion show followed the presentation. Members of the Commission and friends modeled 18th century clothing. June Cook from Storowton, commented the show.

The Agawam Garden Club sponsored "America the Beautiful — a Bicentennial Flower Show on September 6, 1975.

One of the major events of our Bicentennial celebration was the 18th Century Ball held at Chez Josef, October 11, 1975. Co-chairmen of this festive event were Sylvia Deliso, Janet Clark and Harry Camyre. Six hundred and fifty guests were greeted by members of the Bicentennial Commission. Representative Edeard W. Connelly, Toastmaster, gave the official welcome and introduced the invited guests. One of the highlights of the evening was Miss Connie Kinnell, Miss Agawam 1975, drawing for the #1 Commemorative Chair. The Chair was won by Mrs. Ruth Zucco.

November 26, 1975, James D. Westman, Town Manager and Linda A. Kalesnik, Bicentennial Commission Chairman presented a Bicentennial flag to the United States Marine Corps on behalf of the Town of Agawam. The Flag was presented to the United States Marines in honor of their 200th Birthday.

During 1975 the Town of Agawam has received Four Bicentennial Matching Grants, a unique record. The first two grants, amounting to \$8,500.00 was awarded to the Benjamin Wade Park Project. The Agawam Tomen's Club received \$850.00 for their project — Refurbishing the South Parlor of the Captain Charles Leonard House. The Agawam Bicentennial Commission received \$2,500.00, which is being used for a narrative slide presentation on the history of Agawam.

Throughout 1975 the Agawam Center Library in conjunction with the Bicentennial celebration, exhibited articles relative to Agawam's Past.

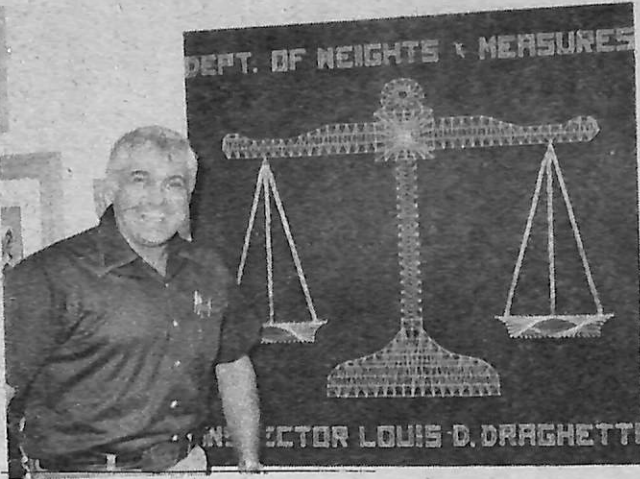
For Agawam, it has been a successful year. We have had the pleasure of knowing and exchanging ideas with the commissions of our surrounding cities and towns. Currently plans are being formulated for the coming year. We are looking forward to and anticipating an equally memorable and successful 1976 — The climax of our Nation's Birthday.

LINDA A. KALESNIK
Chairman
Agawam Bicentennial Commission

Women's Club. Our beautiful Christmas wreath and the colorful annuals in our flower tubs are enjoyed by everyone who enters the center and we thank the Garden Club for their efforts. Special thanks go to the cub scouts who brought true Christmas cheer and surprise to some very lonely people. They will never forget the beautiful handmade ornaments on the trees.

~ Last, but not least, a thank you to the Jaycees who twice a year work so hard to do the heavy cleaning at the center. We hope that the interest and concern of all organizations will continue in our new center, for they are a vital part in the lives of our senior citizens.

DEPARTMENT OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES



LOUIS D. DRAGHETTI
Inspector of Weights & Measures

It is my pleasure to submit to you this year's annual report. The purpose of this department is to keep our citizens from being cheated by intent, unknowingly or by error in their purchases of the necessities of life.

We have culminated one of the most progressive years in the history of this department. Under the Federal Emergency Job Program, a new independent fire-proof building was constructed to house our petroleum meter testing facilities. We re-assembled in this building, the town's antiquated balance. This balance has been refurbished to a sophistication to enable it to be utilized to calibrate our 50 pound weights without the necessity of carrying them upstairs in the Town Hall.

The Unit Price Statute which was passed by the legislature to be enforced by local Sealers in August, 1974, has proved to be a formidable task, and we have had to delegate a considerable portion of our time in its enforcement. The legislature this year extended authority to local sealers in the area of deceptive pricing on all products sold by weights or measures.

This department processes all consumer complaints for our Consumer Advisory Commission. This year, the Inspector of Weights & Measures was one of 25 people selected in the State of Massachusetts to attend a consumer complaint handling seminar sponsored by the Massachusetts Consumers' Council under a federal grant. Each trainee attended a high intensity training session at the Harbridge House in Boston. All expenses were furnished under the federal grant. The course covered methodology in resolving consumer complaints on goods, personal services, rental housing, financial services and regulated industries, such as automotive and insurance, etc. The course provided the Inspector of Weights & Measures with the acumen to delve into and assist to resolve nearly all types of consumer complaints. We are currently attending monthly meetings sponsored by Attorney General Bellotti to brief consumer protection officials on complaints in regulated industries such as, automotive complaints, landlord and rental housing, etc. Each month a new area of consumer protection is reviewed by the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division. This is part of the Attorney General's offer to assist local agencies in resolving their own consumer complaints. Our consumer complaints this year involved thousands of dollars in consumer services. We have been able to resolve 90% of the complaints brought to us without referring them to other agencies.

We are the Town's liaison representative between the Town and the cable television company. We will, and do process any complaint regarding cable television. This has been a formidable challenge to our department this year due to the financial difficulties of the cable company prior to its transfer to the present owners. We do not expect to spend as much time in the coming year as was apportioned to cable television this year because the company has already transferred ownership and have come to agreements with the Town on the franchise and rates.

The metric bill which is expected to pass the Congress this year will undoubtedly initiate the basic course our country will take to make our Weights and Measures system competitive in world trade. On November 18, 1975, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts conducted a petroleum measurement seminar for all Sealers of Weights and Measures in Massachusetts. The effect of metrication at the gasoline pumps was one of the items presented to Sealers by manufacturers of retail gasoline dispensers and components. We were present at this meeting.

TREE WARDEN

It seems appropriate at this time to mention that the people of Agawam do show a lot of interest in their trees. As Tree Warden it makes me feel good that I can be involved in the future of Agawam's trees.

In the past year we've been involved in tree trimming, tree removal and various aspects of tree work. It would be easy if we had an unlimited budget to do all the

work that we should do, but as in any other department with limited funds, we can only do what is feasible.

In closing I would like to say that the Dept. of Public Works and the Police Dept. have been a great help to me in reporting and cooperating when we have had emergencies.

Elmer Cascio
Tree Warden

PLANNING BOARD

In September of 1974, the Planning Board began its work on a master plan for the town, to provide a map for intelligent growth for the next five to ten years. The basis assessment of the town — its land, its people, and its economics — was published under date of August, 1975. This first part of the planning was produced by Brown, Donand and Donald, municipal planners of Farmington, Connecticut, with Robert Donald AIP, planner in charge for Agawam. All material was submitted, assessed and agreed upon by the board before publication. The future planning part will be completed by December of '75 with public hearings slated for Spring of '76 to allow the townspeople to react and the board to then modify as it sees desirable before final publication. The very readable basic analysis is available at the libraries and at the Town Hall office. Members of this board would be happy to speak to any group on the master plan work. Please call the secretary, Mrs. McCarthy, at the Town Hall.

One of the immediate benefits of the planning is the availability of two maps to the public (\$1.00 each) from the Town Engineer. One is a reduction of the assessor's maps at 1000 scale and can be utilized as an excellent street map. The second one is a plotting of the physical characteristics of the land on the assessor's map which indicates wetlands, buildable land, etc. — of use to anyone proposing to develop or build.

The Planning board believes that the provision of miles of sewer lines, water lines and streets does not of itself make a living environment worthy of the true nature of man. The irritation of flashing signs, streets used for parking lots, shopping centers which require risk to car and person to use, flooded cellars, denuded lands and streams full of trash, and the disappearance of "play" space are the things which contribute to the "quality of life" judgements — contribute to the irritations which color all of our attitudes and lives, and degrade the land values of our community. The Board therefore has spent much of its time in studying and proposing to the Council planning ordinances to address these issues. Such ordinance must translate the various ethnic cultural ideals into a community standard, be general enough to be equitable, but most importantly, must allow for judgement by whomever enforces, to carry the intention of the ordinance into the specific proposal. To translate this into legal terminology is a most difficult task!

The board proposed an ordinance for open space subdivision (clustering) to allow for single family house ownership while preserving the agricultural or open space neighborhood recreation abilities of the land. The ordinance is in use throughout the region most successfully.

The second ordinance provided standards for the parking of vehicles off the public ways. Agawam is the only community of its size in the region without such standards — which accounts for many of the problems, irritations, and risks encountered regularly in town.

The third ordinance was addressed to providing better safety and quality of life decisions for multifamily dwellers and their relationship to the rest of the community.

The Council did adopt in this '74 - '75 year the proposals for the regulation of development in the Flood Plain — under federal mandate — and for the regulation of signage. The effects of the latter will not be fully realized by the community for some four or five more years. Guidelines for business in Agawam have been virtually nonexistent up 'till now; we anticipate continued resistance from some few of the businessmen who do not understand their role as community leader in establishing and reinforcing values — both economic and social.

Another relationship of the board to the Council is the review of zone change petitions with public hearing, subsequent report and recommendation for the Council's guidance in making its decision. Seven zone change petitions were sent to us with the following results.

Three petitions for Silver Hill Village Assoc. — corner of Suffield St./Silver St.; First petition rejected by board and by Council; Second and Third petitions approved by board with recommendations attached; subsequently rejected by Council.

John Alcorn for land off Bradford Drive - Lehn, Dainiak, & Buckley for land on Mill St./ Rt. 57 - Former Dalton Funeral Home on Main Street - Goodlife Construction Co. for land on Main St. at Reed St. ;

These four petitions were recommended to be rejected by the board; the petitions were subsequently withdrawn from Council action.

Under power of Chapter 41 of Mass. General Law, subdivision approvals were given for three preliminary plans none of which have been followed by definitive plans, an indication of the extreme gravity of the recession. Thirty three land divisions were determined as not constituting subdivision, meaning no new streets were needed to provide for house lots. These divisions of land must be signed by the board in order for the deeds to be recorded in the Registry.

The Planning Board did extensive investigation, reports, and gave testimony to the Board of Appeals in regard to the Pheasant Hill Village proposal for 282 low-moderate income units of housing in Feeding Hills. The Board is now cooperating with members of the House of Representatives for a rewrite of this state law to provide for sound social and economic planning. Any subsidized housing, including the new Federal 235 act, can utilize this law to avoid local zoning control.

Members of the Board sit on other related committees — TAC, land needs, transportation etc — and the chairperson represents Agawam as commissioner to the Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission. This works enables the town a voice in regional and state land use planning and provides the necessary knowledge to integrate the future impacts of outside decisions in the community plans. To handle this work, the board met twenty-eight times and members participated, upon request, in forty additional meetings of other agencies and the Council.

SPAN CENTER

The SPAN Center during 1975, was able to broaden its services in many areas and to define its role in the community more clearly. It has continued its concern for clients with drug related problems but drug treatment is by no means the sole focus of the program. During the past year, SPAN has increased its work with young people and has begun to work more extensively with the problems of alcohol addiction. Both of these areas will be addressed at length shortly.

There have been several personnel changes during the past year. Bucky Jackson, the Director, left to take a position with the Seacoast Regional Counseling Center in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Dr. Sam Femiano, the new Director, came from Brooklyn, New York where he was program director for a residential child care program.

Ms. Nancy Gold who resigned her position as counselor to take a position with the Weyham County Court Project, has been replaced by Ms. Lois Bass. Ms. Bass had had a great deal of experience with drug treatment in New York City and more recently has counseled in the Amherst-Northampton area.

Bob Saunders, who had worked with SPAN as an intern, was able to come on staff as a full time counselor through the assistance of a VISTA grant. That grant will terminate in February 1976 and the Center will be obliged to find other funding to keep Bob on staff.

Finally, Ron Baer joined the staff as an outreach worker at the end of 1974. His presence has allowed several programs to begin during this past year.

The SPAN Board of Directors also had some changes. Paul Delskey was elected chairperson and Fran Milliken joined the Board for the first time.

The number of clients in the program has been fairly stable over the past year at about 100 in any given month. This number includes people in individual counseling and therapy and people in groups. The age range covers the gamut from young school age children to middle aged couples and older people. Some clients are in long term programs, while others come in for short term counseling centered around particular problems.

There have been some noticeable trends over the past year. The Center has increased its work with school age children. A camping group was begun; personal growth and support groups have functioned on a semester basis; a recreation group for elementary and middle school children have begun. The Center has also received an increasing number of court referrals, detoxification referrals, through the Treatment Alternatives Program and referrals from probation officers.

During 1974, the Center moved to its present location because it needed more congenial quarters and space more appropriate for counseling. During the past year, the space has been renovated to provide more office space for the staff and furnishings have been acquired through the generosity of friends to equip two counseling rooms, a comfortable waiting room and a group meeting room.

During the coming year, SPAN will continue to work with a drug abusing population. The sudden upsurge in the availability of heroin has once again rendered the problem more acute. Also during the coming year, we are projecting an alcohol program under the auspices of a \$500 grant from the National Jaycees. We have applied as well for a grant from the National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse to allow us to expand our services in the area of alcohol abuse.

During the past year, the Center worked with the schools to assist children with special needs. This co-operation took the form of providing groups for children with special needs and working with school personnel on Core evaluation Teams. The new legislation under Chapter 766 has increased the demands for special services for school age children and we project working more closely and more intensively with the schools this coming year.

Dr. Sam Femiano

With the passage of a new Massachusetts Zoning Enabling Act sometime this year, the Planning Board will be proposing a total revamp of Section 20 of the Town Code. Any citizen who will take the time necessary to participate in this work is hereby urged to come to the Board meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month — Hearing Room, Town Hall — to contact any member of the board for information, and to call our full time secretary, Mrs. McCarthy, at the Town Hall to offer his/her help in an advisory capacity. Terms to the Board are for five years, and we welcome potential candidates to learn something of the job.

Should a civic minded organization be considering a Bicentennial project, may we suggest purchasing and mounting of up to date USCS aerial photographs of Agawam. This would be a worthy replacement for the 1955 grouping which is hung in the hearing room of the Town Hall. The maps cost about \$20 and the possible total cost would not exceed \$100. These photos would provide a proper background for meetings, and be a source of information and illustration.

Members: Natalie C. George, Chairperson
Stanley Drewnowski, Clerk
Robert S. Bergin
Arthur J. Fuchs
Steven P. Kitrosser

NON-REVENUE ACCOUNTS LIABILITIES and RESERVES

TOWN ACCOUNTANT BALANCE SHEET — JUNE 30, 1975 REVENUE ACCOUNTS

ASSETS

Cash Revenue	\$1,225,763.97	
Invested Cash	750,000.00	\$1,975,763.97
Petty Cash Advance:		
School Lunch		31.00
Accounts Receivable:		
Taxes:		
Levy of 1969:		
Personal Property	2,294.05	
Levy of 1970:		
Personal Property	1,875.18	
Levy of 1971:		
Personal Property	5,232.91	
Levy of 1972:		
Personal Property	5,055.11	
Real Estate	115.40	
		5,170.51
Levy of 1973:		
Personal Property	5,862.00	
Real Estate	42,394.42	
		48,256.42
Levy of 1974:		
Personal Property	1,957.00	
Real Estate	73,673.91	
		75,630.91
Levy of 1975:		
Personal Property	14,859.14	
Real Estate	383,798.37	
		398,657.51
Motor Vehicle Excise:		
Levy of 1971	22,416.58	
Levy of 1972	30,975.51	
Levy of 1973	45,520.02	
Levy of 1974	61,955.02	
Levy of 1975	139,889.99	
		300,757.12
Farm Animal Excise:		
Levy of 1972		70.62
Special Assessments:		
Sewer and Storm Drain:		
Added to Taxes:		
Levy of 1973	38.50	
Levy of 1973	139.95	
Committed Interest		
Levy of 1973	16.56	

LIABILITIES and RESERVES

Payroll Deductions:		
Group Hospitalization		
Insurance	\$9,638.07	
Group Life Insurance	315.53	
		\$9,953.60
Guarantee Deposits:		
Board of Appeals	415.59	
Planning Board	50.00	
Town Council		
Advertisements	131.12	
Miscellaneous Bid		
Proposals, etc.	1,542.19	
Zone Change	550.27	
Water Guarantees	1,038.00	
Planning Board		
Sub-Division		
Forfeitures	2,347.64	
		6,074.81
Agency:		
Employees' Group		
Insurance Dividends	1,163.48	
Medicare Premium		
in Escrow	826.50	
Tailings —		
Unclaimed Checks	82.13	
		2,072.11
Gifts:		
Conservation Fund	445.00	
Police Ambulance		
Jay-Cees	8,150.00	
Edwin L. Cook, Sr.		
& Edwin L. Cook, Jr.		
Memorial Fund	.92	
Parks Preschool Program		
Council on Aging	700.50	
Library	45.52	
Josephine M. Danahy		
Estate—School Purposes	752.40	
Youth Commission	25.00	
		10,161.01
Trust Fund Income:		
Desire AV. Pyne		
Charity	146.93	
White Street		
Worthy Poor	175.09	
Mary Phelon School	521.08	
Mary Phelon Library		
.....	20.79	

Appropriation Balances:		
Town Clerk—		
Census Services	4,850.00	
Law—Consultant Services	3,419.44	
Election & Registration		
— Census Services	3,473.68	
Printing	1,614.06	
Administration Building —		
Maintenance &		
Improvements	18,211.93	
Police — Salaries	480.00	
Vehicles	5,305.00	
Study Survey	18,000.00	
Health — Professional		
Services	3,889.30	
Sanitation —		
Sewer and Water	24,000.00	
Sanitation — North Street		
Engr. Sewer Study—		
Deep Gutter	7,000.00	
North Street Shoemaker		
Lane Project Deep		
Gutter	6,937.00	
Three Mile Brook		
Sanitary Sewer		
Engineering Service	3,000.00	
1961 Chapter 90		
Construction	5,000.00	
1972 Chapter 90		
Construction	2,798.51	
1974 Chapter 90		
Construction	23,761.30	
1975 Chapter 90		
Construction	17,500.00	
1975 Chapter 90		
Maintenance	11,000.00	
Danahy School Zone	5,005.00	
Water — Professional		
Consultant	10,955.17	
Sewer & Water	128,798.55	
Maintenance of		
Buildings	3,663.00	
Construction Equipment	2,975.00	
Veterans' Benefits	3,000.00	
Council on Aging —		
Professional Services	300.00	
Schools — Operating		
Expenses		
Teachers' Salaries	280,050.00	
Land Taking—		
Administration Building		
Complex	1,000.00	
Land Taking —		
School Purposes	900.00	
Land Taking —		
Heirs D. Crowley	150.00	
Land Taking —		
James Street	7,242.00	
Land Taking —		
Sewer Purposes	6,301.06	
Easements —		
Elbert Road	2.00	
Maynard Street	1.00	
Silver Street	1.00	
Planning Board —		
Consulting Service	4,500.00	
Insurance and Surety Bonds		
(1975 Audit)	4,500.00	
Retired Firefighter		
Duty Injury	1,000.00	
Retired Police Officer		
Duty Injury	500.00	
Conservation Commission	679.26	
Previous Year Bills	2,883.53	
Agawam Business &		
Industrial Development	7,500.00	
.....	225.40	



CAROL J. TAYLOR
Town Accountant

NON-REVENUE ACCOUNTS

ASSETS

Non-Revenue Cash	\$103,932.72
Aid to Sewers and Sewerage	
Disposal Facility:	
State Allotment	\$355,500.00
Aid to Sewerage System—	
South Main Street Area	
Federal Aid	24,566.40
	380,066.40
Temporary Loan:	
Sewerage Disposal Facility	
State Reimbursement ...	30,000.00
North Street Deep	
Gutter and Shoemaker	
Lane Sewer — Antic.	
of Serial Issue	60,000.00
	90,000.00
Loans Authorized:	
Sewerage System —	
South Main Street	
Area	94,000.00
Sewerage System and	
Disposal Facilities	1,600,000.00
City of Springfield	
Treatment Plant	450,000.00
North Street and	
Shoemaker Lane	
Sewers	650,000.00
Three Mile Brook	
Sewer — Engineering	
Services	30,000.00
	2,824,000.00

TOWN ACCOUNTANT SUMMARY

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSES

YEAR ENDED — JUNE 30, 1975

	APPROPRIATIONS	EXPENDED	UNEXPENDED BALANCE	CARRY OVER
General Government				
Town Council	14,846.00	13,817.55	1,028.45	
Town Manager	60,389.25	59,127.81	1,261.44	
Accountant	30,870.00	29,950.35	919.65	
Clerk	46,835.00	40,380.88	1,604.12	4,850.00
Treasurer	44,955.00	44,364.75	590.25	
Collector	47,046.00	43,734.06	3,311.94	
Assessors	47,440.00	38,732.84	8,707.16	
Law	31,400.00	27,402.55	578.01	3,419.44
Election & Registration	25,079.23	16,970.65	3,020.84	5,087.74
Administration Building	70,611.00	50,684.72	1,714.35	18,211.93
Board of Appeals	1,576.00	1,226.23	349.77	
Planning Board	41,161.00	32,074.60	639.60	8,446.80
Data Processing	47,333.00	46,347.57	985.43	
Dog Law Enforcement	8,875.00	5,718.31	3,156.69	
Council on Aging	50,764.44	48,173.01	2,291.43	300.00
	569,180.92	498,705.88	30,159.13	40,315.91
Public Safety				
Fire	701,459.98	697,268.97	1,951.01	2,240.00
Police	740,175.52	682,356.92	16,055.62	41,762.98
Inspector of Weights & Measures	12,902.00	12,570.81	331.19	
Building Inspector	59,379.25	57,130.93	2,248.32	
Forestry	21,800.00	21,800.00		
Civil Defense	5,218.72	5,210.09	8.63	
	1,540,935.47	1,476,337.72	20,594.77	44,002.98
Public Health				
Health Department	69,944.30	59,719.99	6,335.01	3,889.30
	69,944.30	59,719.99	6,335.01	3,889.30
Department of Public Works				
Sanitation	351,769.84	258,728.11	28,186.32	64,855.41
DPW Administration	43,206.80	37,315.68	5,891.12	
Highway	548,353.39	456,106.72	27,181.86	65,064.81
Town Engineer	81,252.37	77,948.21	3,304.16	
Street Lights	147,000.00	146,284.63	715.37	
	1,171,582.40	976,383.35	65,278.83	129,920.22
Veterans' Benefits				
Veterans' Benefits	88,513.75	81,638.82	3,874.93	3,000.00
Schools				
	5,649,522.00	5,262,685.11	106,786.89	280,050.00
Acquisition of Land				
	19,597.06	4,000.00		15,597.06
Library				
	137,325.58	129,612.84	7,712.74	
Park & Recreation				
	134,671.00	133,352.29	1,318.71	
Unclassified				
	687,406.78	645,500.49	24,518.08	17,388.21
Enterprises (Water)				
	443,138.13	265,092.45	31,653.96	146,391.72
Cemeteries				
	2,025.00	1,061.00	964.00	
Maturing Debt & Interest				
	923,915.00	791,180.76	132,734.24	
Capital Improvements				
	318,000.00	92,782.84		225,217.16
Investment — Stabilization Fund				
	23,000.00	23,000.00		
TOTAL — SUMMARY	11,778,757.39	10,441,053.54	431,931.29	905,772.56

DEFERRED REVENUE ACCOUNTS

Apportioned Assessments	
Not Due:	
Sewer and Storm Drain	\$7,114.15
Sidewalk	30.00
	<u>\$7,144.15</u>
Apportioned Sewer and Storm Drain Assessment Revenue:	
Due 1975	\$912.87
Due 1976	902.25
Due 1977	785.64
Due 1978	659.78
Due 1979	629.11
Due 1980	486.00
Due 1981	464.00
Due 1982	447.50
Due 1983	437.50
Due 1984	415.50
Due 1985	349.00
Due 1986	215.00
Due 1987	155.00
Due 1988	150.00
Due 1989	105.00
	<u>7,114.15</u>
Apportioned Sidewalk Assessment Revenue:	
Due 1975	10.00
Due 1976	10.00
Due 1977	5.00
Due 1978	5.00
	<u>30.00</u>
	<u>\$7,144.15</u>

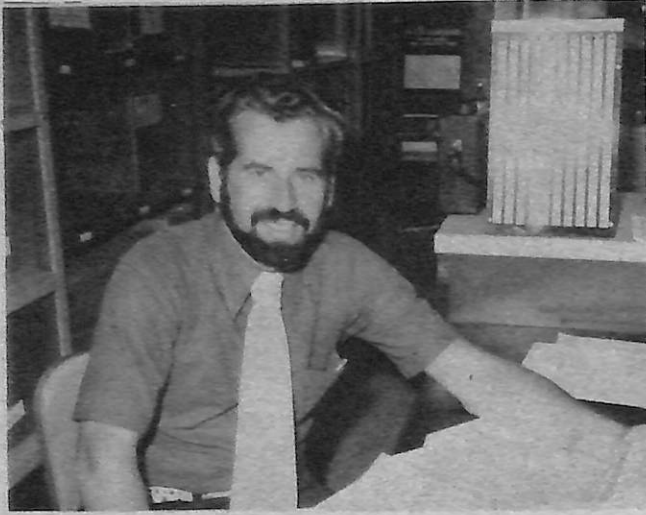
TRUST AND INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS

Trust and Investment Funds:	
Cash and Securities:	
In Custody of Treasurer	\$298,695.24
In Custody of Trustees	8,038.31
	<u>\$306,733.55</u>
In Custody of Treasurer:	
Desire A. Pyne	
Charity Fund	\$3,602.24
Faolin Peirce	
Scholarship Fund	23,757.45
Mary A. Phelon	
School Fund	6,486.17
Mary A. Phelon	
Library Fund	916.93
Clara H. Williams Nursing	
Scholarship Fund	819.78
Maple Grove Cemetery	
Fund	2,577.06
Feeding Hills Old	
Cemetery Funds:	
General Care	330.37
Perpetual Care	586.84
Old Cemetery Fund	1,685.43
Charles Palmer Davis	
Library Fund	57,129.69
Charles Palmer Davis	
Library Fund	5,736.27
Minerva J. Davis	
Library Fund	5,000.00
Stabilization Fund	190,067.01
	<u>298,695.24</u>
In Custody of Trustees:	
Whiting Street Worthy	
Poor Fund	7,137.94
Lydia B. Roberts	
Cemetery Fund	900.37
	<u>8,038.31</u>
	<u>\$306,733.55</u>

FEDERAL REVENUE SHARING

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		LIABILITIES and RESERVES	
ASSETS		Reserved for Appropriation:	
Revenue Sharing Cash	\$58,272.14	Public Law 92-512	\$158,272.14
Unexpended Cash	100,000.00	Public Law 92-512 Authorized	
Public Law 92-512		Unexpended Balances:	
Authorized	141,292.90	Sanitation — Sewer	
		and Water	9,936.31
		Improvement of	
		Buildings	1,187.23
		Fire Science Incentive	2,240.00
		Police — Vehicles	17,977.98
		Sanitation — Improvement	
		of Buildings	12,794.87
		Planning Board —	
		Consultant Services	3,946.80
		Capital Improvements —	
		Sidewalks	26,319.00
		Vehicles & Equipment	66,890.71
			<u>141,292.90</u>
			<u>\$299,565.04</u>

DATA PROCESSING



FREDERICK E. MESSIER, Jr.
Director, Data Processing

Among new developments during the past year in Data Processing were the implementation of a census system, an accounts receivable system for water bills and major changes to both the student scheduling system and the student maintenance system.

A town census was done with the cooperation of the Town Clerk's Office and the School Department. Results from this census are being fed into the computer and from this information reports are to be produced to project future balancing of the schools along with bussing requirements. The Town also plans on using the census information for producing voter list, veterans list, and to produce the towns street list of persons seventeen years of age and upwards, which will be printed in book form.

The accounts receivable system for water bills is currently being tested and will be implemented in the very near future. This system starts with a payment card being punched at the same time the water bills are run. This card is then kept at the Collector's Office until the bill is paid. Once the bill is paid, the amount is put on the payment card which is then sent to Data processing to be keypunched and fed into the computer. At this point various reports are run on request, to show if a balance to be paid exists or if any of the current bills are outstanding.

Major changes in the student scheduling system have resulted in greatly reducing the computer processing time. Under the old method once a student was scheduled he still had to be run in with those that were not scheduled. The system now has been programmed to hold these students aside until all are scheduled, thus reducing the processing time. Once these students are scheduled for the new school year they are then brought over to another system which is used to produce Grade Cards, Warning Notices, etc. This system is maintained daily and a lot of work was done this past year in making this a much more efficient system.

A new programming course "COBOL" was offered to the students for the first time this year. This programming language is widely used in business and along with the scientific language "FORTRAN" already being taught. This gives the student a very good background whether he continue on with school or finds a job in the data processing field.

Future applications are an accounts receivable system for real estate, a student data bank, an inventory system for all the supplies currently being used at the various schools, police department town crime report, and an inventory system for the Town.

TOWN ENGINEER



JOHN P. STONE
Town Engineer

The Engineering Department in the Town of Agawam is a division of the Department of Public Works. As such, one of its major responsibilities is to provide engineering services and technical assistance to the Highway, Water and Sanitation Divisions of that department. This assistance is also extended to other Town Agencies, including among other, the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, board of Appeals, and School Department.

During Fiscal 1975, much of the Engineering Staff's activities were concerned with projects and programs which will be of importance to the Town in the years ahead.

With regard to the extension of sanitary sewer service, reports were filed with the Massachusetts Division of Water Pollution Control on five sewer projects for inclusion on the State's priority list for Federal and State grants. These projects include the North Street-Deep Gutter Area and the North Westfield Street-Thalia Drive Area as well as sewer construction in the Threemile Brook Valley and in the South Westfield Street area. In the coming year, formal grant applications will be filed for these projects.

The Department also filed reports with the US Environmental Protection Agency concerning the existing overflows and by-passes on our sewer system. These reports were required by the permit issued Agawam under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. Under this program, the Town will eventually have to eliminate all overflows and by-passes on our combined sewers and at our pumping stations which at times contribute to the pollution of the Westfield and Connecticut Rivers.

In compliance with other Federal Regulations, the Department has prepared an ordinance regulating sewer user charges, which should be presented to the Council for action during the current year. To be eligible for federal aid for its waste water facilities, the Town must enact such an ordinance to insure that those industries, businesses and residents using the facilities will pay for the service they receive. We anticipate that the charges for the most part will be related to water consumption using Water Department records for the billings.

Finally, negotiations were conducted and an agreement reached with the Town of Longmeadow for the construction and maintenance of a joint pipeline to the new sewage treatment plant on Bondi's Island. This sharing of the pipeline will result in a substantial savings to the Town in construction costs.

The Department was also active in the area of water distribution. In the past year, work began on a study of the water distribution system. The purpose of the study is to determine both the existing and future water needs of Agawam and to design a system of mains to meet these needs. This study will insure that new mains which are installed will be adequate to meet the demands for water for both domestic and fire fighting purposes when the Town is completely developed. The study will also allow us to develop a long range capital improvement program for the needed improvements. The study will be completed during the current year.

In the area of traffic control and safety improvements, a review of the existing speed zones on the Town's major streets was made with the assistance of the Massachusetts Department of Public Works and the Registry of Motor Vehicles. New speed limits were established and are being signed. Also, during the year, the Massachusetts Department of Public Works began to survey work for the safety improvements scheduled for various intersections in Town under the Topics or Urban Systems Programs. These improvements will include such things as the installation of traffic signals, channelization, realignment of streets and traffic markings. Plans for these projects should be completed during the current year. Working with the Safety Officer, the Department prepared ordinances for parking regulations and stop signs to increase highway capacity and improve safety.

In fiscal 1975, the Department prepared plans, specifications and contracts and supervised the installation of a sanitary sewer and storm drain on Shoemaker Lane between Poplar and South Westfield Street, a school zone at Danahy School and sidewalks on Perry Lane and Springfield Street. This sanitary sewer project allowed us to abandon the sewage pumping station on South Westfield Street, thereby eliminating its accompanying operating and maintenance costs. The School Zone was installed under a State program whereby the entire cost of the project will be paid by the State.

The Department also began a program to eliminate the infiltration of ground water into old sanitary sewers. In the first year of the program, the sewers in the Feeding Hills Center Area were inspected from the inside using a television camera. The leaks which were detected at breaks in the pipe

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS



LEONARD C. BELCHER
Superintendent of Public Works

The Department of Public Works in the Town of Agawam consists of five divisions, Administration; Engineering; Highway; Water and Sanitation. This arrangement allows the interchange of personnel and equipment between divisions when necessary and also insures that the programs of the various divisions are coordinated and not working in opposition to each other.

During fiscal 1975, there were no major projects on which to report. The Department did, however, complete many smaller projects and instituted several new programs.

In the Highway Division, the motor vehicle maintenance crew was enlarged using, in part, the Federal employment programs. This enables the Department to do more repair and maintenance work, reducing funds spent for outside service. To further these savings, the maintenance of all Town vehicles with the exception of those of the School and Fire Departments has been assigned to this crew.

In addition, a separate traffic crew has been established within the Highway Department. This crew will allow the Department to improve the pavement marking and signing programs with the goal to improve safety on Town streets.

The major street improvement projects accomplished during the past year were the reconstruction and widening of portions of Cooper Street and Shoemaker Lane. In addition Howard Street, Broz Terrace, Birch Hill Road, Fruwirth Avenue and Thalia Drive were resurfaced while Belmont Avenue and a portion of Barry Street received a surface treatment.

In fiscal 1975, the Water Division instituted a new policy regarding water meters. All water meters installed in new homes will have outside registers. This will shorten the time spent obtaining each reading and will insure that an actual reading is obtained for each billing period. In this manner, we also hope to delay adding to the meter reading staff as the Town grows. In the future, we hope to expand this program and eventually replace existing meters with those with outside registers.

In the past year, new water mains were installed in Kanawha Avenue and in portions of Rowley Street and Corey Street.

Within the Sanitation Division, a program has begun to create a separate maintenance crew. This crew's duties will be to clean the sanitary sewers and storm drains on a regular and on-going basis. With this program we hope to reduce the number of main line sewer blockages which can cause a serious inconvenience for those affected.

During the past year, sanitary sewers were installed on portions of Shoemaker Lane and South Westfield Street while storm drains were constructed on Cooper Street and High Street.

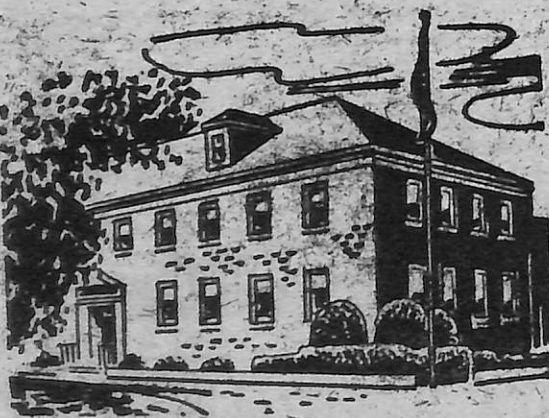
The Department has developed a 5 year capital improvement program for sewers, storm drains, water mains, sidewalks and street reconstruction. Residents with questions concerning needed improvements in their area should contact the DPW office. For fiscal 1976 the planned projects include the reconstruction of Kanawha Avenue, Royal Street, Randall Street and the remainder of Rowley Street; the installation of storm drains on portions of Rowley Street, Silver Street, North West Street and North Westfield Street; and the construction of water mains on Agnoli Place, Portland Place, Ridge Avenue, Melrose Place, and Garden Street.

and at open joints were sealed. This program is aimed at reducing the volume of wastewater the Town discharges into the Bondi's Island Treatment Plant. As the Town is now paying for its sewerage treatment, it is important that clean water be eliminated from the sewer system.

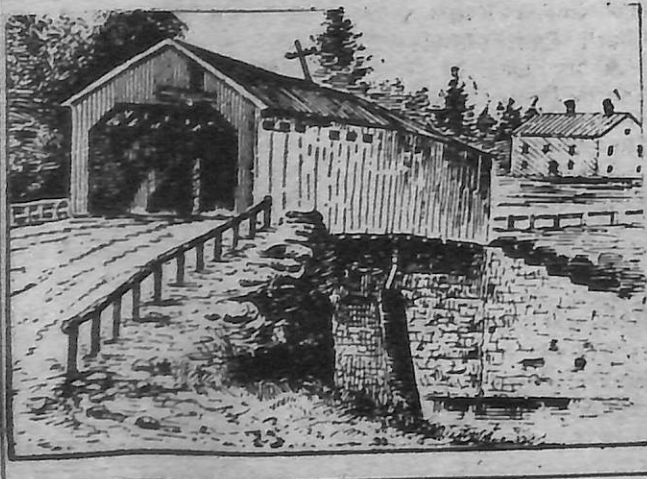
The Engineering Staff spent a substantial amount of time preparing reports to the Board of Appeals relative to the impact of the proposed Chapter 774 Pheasant Hill Village Housing Project in Feeding Hills on the Town's sewer, water, drainage and roadway systems. These reports made the Board of Appeals aware of the problems we faced and enable them to reach a decision wherein the cost of the necessary improvements would be borne by the Developers.

In Fiscal 1976, the Engineering Department will, amongst other things, be working on drainage projects on Royal Street, Randall Street and portions of Rowley, High, Silver, and North West Streets; a water main installation on a portion of Garden Street; sidewalk projects on portions of Springfield, South Westfield, Maynard, Edward and Corey Streets; and roadway reconstruction on Royal and Randall Streets and the final section of Rowley Street. We will also be continuing with the sewer inspection and sealing programs.

TOWN HALL



AGAWAM BRIDGE (1899)



FIRE DEPARTMENT



HARRY SCHNEIDER
Fire Chief

The ultimate aim and purpose of our Fire Department is to protect your life and property from destruction. To do this, we have employed 52 Officers' and Firefighters' to be ready to answer any call where we can be able to assist combatting any problem or emergency that threatens you.

During the past budget period, we have instituted innovations which we feel also assist in the prevention of destruction and emergencies.

A new image has been created for fire prevention. For years, we have had "Smokey the Bear" for forest fires and "Sparkey the Dog" for other fire prevention.

Through the efforts of a commercial artist in Springfield, along with assistance from the Agawam Fire and School Department's, a new image has been created. This new image is "Captain Noburn." This year, every third grade student in our schools have been presented with a fire prevention program with the use of "Captain Noburn."

This year marks a milestone in our departments educational program in a much as 4 members have completed the fire science course at Springfield Technical Community College and have received their degrees in Fire Science. We also have 29 members currently enrolled at Springfield Technical Community College in the Fire Science program.

Our members have completed a First Responder's course, namely Advanced Fire Aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. This will be a definite asset to all our townspeople when such help is needed.

We want to give our sincere thanks to all townspeople, organizations, clubs, and businesses that have contributed towards the purchase of various equipment for the new Rescue Truck. This new vehicle has allowed the Fire Department to further assist the citizens in emergencies and at fires. In 1975, the Rescue Squad had responded to over 220 calls for assistance.

Through the efforts and training of members of the department, we now have at least one member on each shift assigned to this vehicle that is a Registered Emergency Medical Technician.

We have had one retirement and three promotions in this department this year. On July 1st, Lt. William DeForge, Jr. retired after 26 years of service to the town. On May 3rd, Lt. Russell Jenks, assigned to Fire Prevention, was appointed Deputy Chief. On May 18th, Firefighter Robert Edmunds was appointed Lieutenant and assigned head of Group B at Station #3, and Charles Stowers was appointed Lieutenant in charge of the Training Division.

The Officer's and men of the Fire Department stand ready to assist you in every way so they can make Agawam a better and safer place to live. We can be proud of the way they perform and execute their tasks during emergencies. For their achievements and excellent co-operation, I am truly grateful.

I would be remiss if I did not also bring to your attention the cooperation we received from all other town departments throughout the year.

BOARD OF APPEALS

Your Board of Appeals had one of the busiest years on record with 28 public hearings as well as untold hours of deliberation and review of the much publicized "Pheasant Hill" apartment project application.

A substantial number of these hearings resulted from the newly adopted sign ordinance which requires Board approval for all free standing signs as well as most wall signs.

We wish to sincerely thank all Town officials who have been most cooperative and helpful during the year, and as a result, made our job so much easier.

Serving on the Board during the year was Chairman Ted Progulski, Clerk John Shaughnessy and Member Jerry Zerra with John Juliano and Marcel Bedard the alternate members.

Town Hall 1906



POLICE DEPARTMENT



ROMEO H. BORGATTI
Acting Police Chief

The Police Department this year transgressed into a new era. We have been and currently are incorporating new innovative programs which we are sure will aid us in abating crime increase in Agawam. Unfortunately, in recent years, serious crime has been on the increase, not only in Agawam, but throughout the country and we are consistent with the national average in almost every criminal activity.

Under the direction of the Town Manager, an in-depth study of the Police Department is currently underway by the McCann Associates. The survey is geared to pointing out our deficiencies and project our needs. We are sure it will be a valuable evaluation of our department and will guide our police services to a more efficient operation.

In the meantime, while maintaining all essential services such as, ambulance, checking business and residents, assistance to disabled motorists, etc., we have taken the initiative to expand and improve in traffic safety, primarily by a formation of a Traffic Bureau utilizing some of our personnel working two shifts, from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. The bureau's objective is to provide better traffic safety, investigate traffic accidents, radar, and traffic accident prevention as well as on back-up patrol duties.

An Internal Affairs Unit, which will be in charge of citizens complaint division, is another subdivision we have instituted. This type of a bureau is quite common in police departments. A police-citizens exchange in which the Chief of Police will also be available to meet with citizens regarding the operation of the police department, is a planned addition in conjunction with the Internal Affairs Bureau.

We are proud to inform our town's people, approximately 75% of our officers have attended or are attending college police programs to increase their capability to serve us all in a more efficient manner. The changes which are occurring daily in police work and procedures dictate we keep abreast in our profession. In order for us to cope with specialized crime, we are currently taking advantage of specialized training courses provided at the State Police Academy. Our goal is to have every one of our officers trained in the most modern methodology and techniques. I, too, as your acting chief, have found it imperative to attend all meetings.

Modifications of the Detective Bureau has led us to re-examine the modus operandi of our Detective Bureau. Narcotic sales, gambling and organized crime endeavors, indicate another approach in utilizing the talents of our detectives and may provide us with less activity by such crimes in Agawam. We feel, by placing a greater emphasis on the skills and specialization of our personnel, we may be to a better advantage by increasing Detective Bureau duties instead of general patrol duties.

Reorganization of the Police Auxiliary Unit, now known as the Agawam Police Reserve Force, has led to excellent citizens response for membership in the unit. In specific areas where we have utilized the services of our reserve unit officers, they have proven to be most efficient in curbing acts of vandalism and breaks which were here-to-fore problem areas in town. During the holiday season, they proved to be invaluable in curtailing the usual holiday season larcenies, breaks, and nuisance complaints. Needless to say, our future plans include assignments for the volunteer unit, not only to aid us in retarding criminal activities, but also to bring us into greater harmony with residents of our community.

It has been said, "the future belongs to those who keep up to the minute." Our standard is to keep up to the minute. Naturally, to do this, we must up-date our facilities. The use of electronics has become a valuable tool in every business endeavor. We, too, must gear ourselves to utilize newer sophisticated equipment. Therefore, we have requested budgetary items to include purchase of some of this equipment. Long range planning include use of our computer capability for police work. Currently, periodic totals from the computer on our budget accounts keep our office staff current on expenditures and do ease some tedious bookkeeping procedures. We look towards the applicability of our computer for immediate retrieval of information that has been stored for years without the necessity of relying on individualistic memory to search files for needed information.

We are indeed fortunate to have members of our police department who emanate from varying backgrounds that make us undoubtedly one of the most versatile police departments in the Pioneer Valley. Some of our personnel come from neighboring communities, but most were brought up in Agawam. A few members genealogy date to Ensign Cooper's family, one of the first settlers on this side of the Connecticut River. We all have a precious stake in Agawam and can only be happy in a safe and secure community and your police department intends Agawam to be such a community.

Finally, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the manager's office, department heads, and town employees, who have assisted us during this very trying year.

VETERANS' SERVICES



JOHN J. MCCARTHY
Veteran's Services

During 1975, the Veteran's Service Department continued to serve the veterans and their dependents at a high level. The office calls and personal contacts numbered several thousand.

Due to the increase of Vietnam veterans and the advanced age of veterans of earlier wars with medical problems, our work load continues to increase.

Services rendered consist of recording discharges and counseling veterans regarding bonus, education, employment, dental and medical treatment.

We are proud of our work in obtaining Compensation and Non-Service connected disability pensions for veterans, also pensions for widows and allowances for children of deceased veterans.

Checking our cases for the past three years, we have acquired for Agawam veterans and their dependents accumulative federal benefits by way of the Veterans Administration in excess of \$230,000.00 per year. This money is paid directly to the recipients by the Veterans Administration. Total amount for the district amount to over \$300,000.00 a year.

This does not include money received by people we have assisted in receiving Social Security benefits and Supplemental Security Income for the elderly.

During Fiscal 74 and 75, this department extended aid for hospitalization, doctors, medications and ordinary benefits in the amount of \$78,427.86. This was all approved by the State office and Agawam will be re-imursed \$39,213.95.

Without the Federal benefits being received by the veterans and dependents through this office, our expenditures in assistance would be more than double our present budget.

My thanks for the cooperation we have received from all the departments in the Town.

During 1976, I will do my best to administer the affairs of this department to the best advantage of the Veteran, his dependents and the Town of Agawam.

LICENSING COMMISSION

The Agawam Licensing Commission meets the second Wednesday, of each month. Special meetings are also called when necessary.

During the year, two members resigned due to ill health, Michael Montagna and Chairman Henry McGowan. Upon the resignation of Henry McGowan, the Town Manager appointed Charles Marquis for a period of six years. Acting Chairman John Shea is presently serving a six year term.

Licenses in force as of December 1, 1975, are as follows: Two all alcoholic inn holders, 15 all alcoholic restaurants, five all alcoholic package stores, seven all alcoholic clubs, two all alcoholic veteran's clubs, five all alcoholic drug stores, five wines/malts restaurants, three wines/malts package stores, nine seasonal alcoholic restaurants and seven seasonal alcoholic clubs.

The Commission increased the fees for liquor licenses by 10% for the year 1976, bringing the total income to the town to \$27,566.

Early in July, this Commission instituted a strong program beginning with a warning letter to all licensee's explaining the type of I.D. cards this Commission would accept. We told

the owners that we would be checking closely and if we found any business selling to minors, they would suffer the consequences. We further informed them of their rights and asked that the warning letter be returned for placement in their file in our office. Since sending out the letters, we have made several spot checks during the evenings checking for I.D. cards. In the near future, we expect to extend this information to the High School explaining the General Laws with regards to minors using false I.D. cards.

The Commission, in dealing with violations, suspended one license for six months, suspended one license for 30 days and suspended one license for seven days. The Commission also required one establishment to put a man at the door for much closer supervision.

As the Licensing Commission, we will continue to keep the license holders aware that they must tow the line 100%.

We acknowledge the tremendous assistance given us by our secretary, Linda Mortenson, and Mr. Westman.

John J. Shea,
Acting Chairman
Charles T. Marquis,
Commissioner

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Agawam Consumer's Advisory Commission was created with the purpose of protecting the consumer by handling town resident's consumer complaints and directing them to appropriate regulatory agencies for action. The Commission serves as an advisory body and is not an arbitrary or regulatory board.

The Commission is composed of five members and includes in its representation, the Sealer of Weights and Measures.

Since its first meeting in April, 1972, the Commission has seen a heightened awareness on the part of town residents regarding the services of the Commission. Through newspaper releases, brochures, television programs, and telephone inquiries, town residents have learned what this Commission could do in aiding them with their consumer complaints. Consumer complaints have increased steadily since the Commission's inception to the degree that the Commission has addressed approximately one hundred complaints in the past year.

Some examples of common complaints include; bait and switch advertising, faulty or shoddy workmanship, failure to give an estimate, incorrect or illegal billing, damaged or defective merchandise, dangerous products, deceptive or misrepresented guarantees and deceptive packaging. The dollar value of these complaints range from a few cents to those in excess of \$1,000. In many cases the Commission has been instrumental in aiding town residents to recover losses, repair or replace costly items such as; aluminum siding, eave troughs, television sets, and automotive repairs.

In addition to acting upon individual consumer complaints, commission members have attended and testified at utility rate hearings on behalf of all Agawam consumers.

Commission members have attended special training session designed to make them more cognizant of methods and procedures in resolving consumer complaints.

Most of the complaints that

are received are usually resolved by the Commission bringing the complaint to the attention of the business in violation of the consumer protection laws. In other instances, it has been necessary to advise the consumer to take his or her complaint to an appropriate regulatory body, small claims court, or to the Attorney General's Office.

In the coming year, the commission anticipates even a higher work load since the Attorney General's Office will no longer process individual consumer complaints and the local consumer groups will, for the most part, be processing most consumer complaints.

The following persons serve on the Commission:

Mrs. Lucy S. Gaunt,
Chairperson
Mr. Louis D. Draghetti,
Inspector of Weights & Measures
Mr. Paul A. Placzek,
Secretary
Mrs. Stella Gallerani
Mr. R. Francis Milici
Paul A. Placzek
Secretary

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

It's a modest building—sitting in the shadow of the elegant new Congregational Church. And, strangely enough, both buildings are content—neither one envies or criticizes the other. They share, they enjoy, they serve with love and an open heart. They are good neighbors.

The library's modesty, however, belies any picture of gentle quietness. As traffic hurries by on Main Street and Monroe Street and people and cars stream about in a never-ending eddy, the little brick walls of the library seem to be moving in and out and the roof seems to pop up and down like the Georgian percolator that it is. For, libraries are no longer the granite mausoleums they used to be. Instead, they reverberate with the "busy-ness" of living—the hum of work and play—the bustle of people doing things and going places—people who "know where it's at"—or who are learning to "put it all together."

This past fiscal year the library did all its usual things and some unusual things also! Circulation gain was 30,000 over last year and new borrowers total near 1,000. The professional meetings came and went—and so did the staff. But, there were a few things that changed this year.

The economic crunch sent more students—at all levels—to the library in an effort to keep education costs down; more of the unemployed came through our doors to learn new skills to help in their search for work; more residents of other communities sought us out as a library that was both friendly and resourceful; and certainly, more took advantage of the free programs that we offered.

1975 saw the closing of the historic, nineteenth-century Halladay Library in Feeding Hill and the abbreviation of service to that area. But, 1976 will see that service restored in a better facility—although not quite as quaint or problem-ridden.

With the advent of the Bicentennial, our thoughts are somehow not with the past—although we are lovers and protectors of tradition and history—but rather, with the future. Next year we would like to see our own "space program" off the launching pad; we would like to extend and improve our present programs and offer exciting new ones; we would like to expand our horizons and jump that rainbow we see in the sky.

Oftentimes, I'm reminded of the two prisoners who had adjacent cells. Each time they looked out through their barred windows, one saw only stars—the other only mud. In the past there was only "mud" (literally and figuratively) to be seen from the library's basement window. This year I see only stars..... I'd like to reach out and touch them..... I'd like to reach out and touch you.....

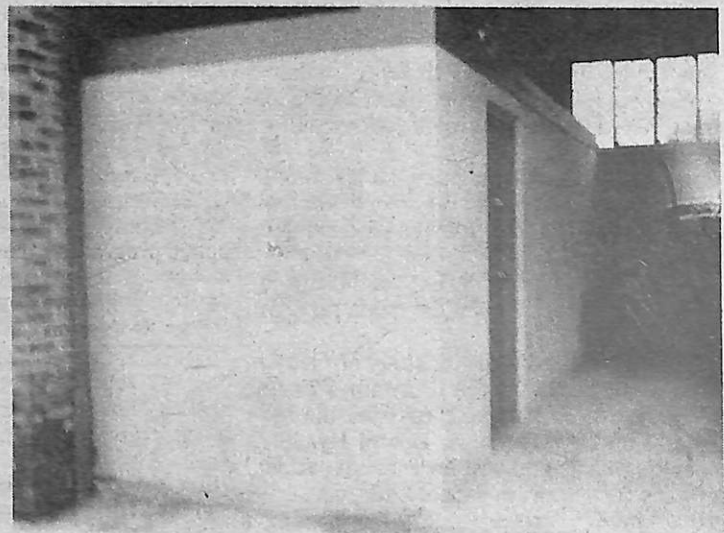
Director

Shirley Richard, Director

MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS



Weights & Measures Department
Testing Station housing
oil test prover and test
weights and balance



Police concrete storage locker
Town Hall Annex

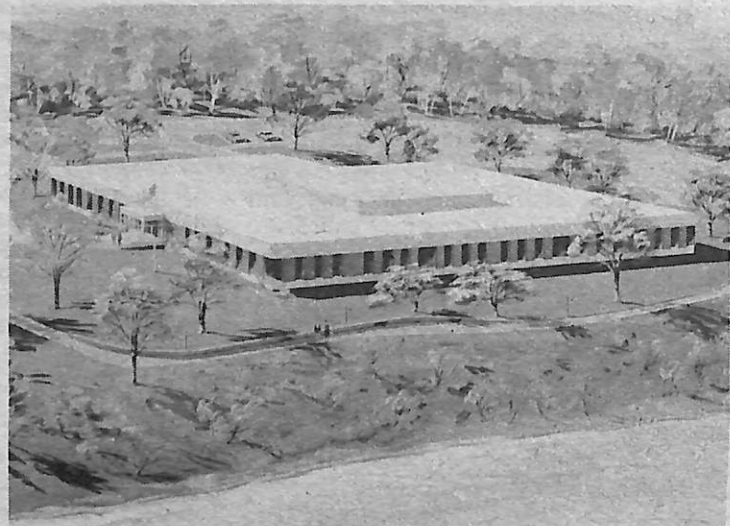


Benjamin Wade Park Pavilion
off Franklin Street



Renovated Garages into office space
and sheds for storage space
Town Hall Annex

FARM CREDIT BANK BUILDING



Farm Credit Bank's new 50,000 sq. ft. building on Hunt Street,
occupied July 18, 1975.

**ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE
ANNUAL TOWN REPORT MAY
BE OBTAINED AT THE
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.**

HEALTH DEPARTMENT



DALE D. KARNES
Health Officer

The Health Department is in the process of reorganization with the objectives of providing health education and personal services to the community on a more encompassing and efficient basis. The improvement of Public Health Services must start by serving residents of the community at an early contact period. This goal has been accomplished through a two step procedure whereby, a) The School Nursing section has been incorporated into the Health Department. b) Well Child Clinics have increased with provisions for more medical services. The School Nurses and Public Health Nurses are being trained under the supervision of the Health Officer, and in conjunction with U.S. Public Health Service, in the field of community health. This course provides an introduction to all aspects of public health and provides a basic foundation for utilizing the nursing section in a wide range of activities.

The Board of Health passed new regulations in April regarding septic systems and private water supplies. The new regulations provide the public with greater protection from the possibility of water borne disease problems.

The Health Department is responsible for enforcing Article II, the State Sanitary Code. Minimum Standards of Fitness for Human Habitation. Article II applies to all apartment buildings and rental units.

The Health Department investigated many complaints regarding housing problems and as existing rental units age the amount of time utilized for these investigations will increase.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts passed a law requiring local boards of health to inspect any property for lead paint content which has been sold to a family with a child under six years old.

Health Department is in the process of obtaining laboratory equipment so that a lead paint detection program can be instituted.

The Health Department utilized a dental study of elementary school children undertaken by the Agawam Womens Club. As a result, the Health Department realized the need for the services of a Dental Hygienist. A Dental Hygienist was hired on a consulting basis and will provide educational and examining services for Agawam school children.

The Health Officer has the responsibility for issuing a number of licenses and permits for the Board of Health. These provide for effective control and inspection in the following areas:

Restaurants, Septic Systems, Dumping and Garbage Collection, Milk, Mobile Food Service, Motel and Trailers, Retail Food Establishments, and Swimming Pools.

A qualifying inspection is made before a license or permit is issued in any of these important health related areas.

The Department of Health has a wide range of powers to insure adequate protection of the public health. Violations of Public Health Articles and regulations are prosecuted under criminal procedures. The Health Department attempts to avoid prosecutions by explaining the health code to violators and the reason why they must comply. The educational policy is the most efficient means of securing compliance and leads to a better understanding of Health Department policies.

The Public Health Nurses provide a wide range of services to the Community. The services are based on the underlying principal of improving the public health.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Following the promulgation of the Regulations under the Wetlands Protection Act — General Law, Chapter 131, Section 40, as amended by Chapter 818, the authority, purposes and definitions of the Conservation Commission have been clearly established.

The Conservation Committee regularly meets on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at the Town Administration Building Hearing Room.

Over 50% of the remaining open land in Agawam is Wetland. The duties of the Conservation Commission are ever increasing as we work to protect these important areas. Under the Commonwealth's General Laws, the Commission has the responsibility to issue an Order of Conditions for any alteration of wetland planned in the Town of Agawam.

The law requires any person who plans to alter, fill, dredge or remove any land or wetland bordering on a creek, river, pond or lake, to file a Notice of Intent with the Commission describing the activity and its effect on the environment. Within twenty-one days, the Commission must advertise and hold a public hearing. Following that hearing, within twenty-one days, the Commission issues an Order of Conditions, a permit regulating work, which will contribute to the protection of public or private water supply, ground water supply, flood control storm damage prevention, prevention of pollu-

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

The trend of making election laws more liberal as they relate to registration of voters continues. There are some special interest groups both on the national and state level who have been the driving force in attempting to have our legislators weaken the process of registration of voters. A specific area which troubles city and town clerks, registrars of voters and election commissioners, is the postcard registration system. This piece of legislation was before the Congress in its last session and was barely defeated. The bill was defeated by a margin of seven votes.

Under this "postcard registration" all that is required of a person who wants to register to become a voter is to pick up one of these cards from a post office, drug store, bank, shopping mall or library, fill the card out and send it to the town hall where we would have to place his name on the voters list.

It would be very difficult to determine if such a person even exists. The safeguards of running honest elections would be totally removed. There is no reason why a person cannot appear at the town hall in body to register as a voter. We have enacted legislation or filed bills to take care of persons who are physically unable to come to the town hall to register. We will go to their home or wherever they may be hospitalized to allow them to become voters. But, in our estimation, if a person is well and keeping in mind the special evening and Saturday registration sessions we have, there is no reason why can't find the time to register in person. If they can't do that they don't deserve the right to vote, they could care less. We feel that the passage of this bill would do nothing but remove all safe-guards on the books to run an honest election.

In a more recent development the Supreme Court ruled that prisoners in any prison can vote and have the right to be registered. This on occasion could be humorous but on the other hand, it could create some serious problems. For example, in the Town of Norfolk, Mass. there is a prison. The election records show that 900 votes is the top turnout in a local election. The inmates in Norfolk Prison number 1200, they certainly could determine the outcome of an election. It's a serious problem that the legislature is now trying to correct. These are some of the problems facing our election process.

Here locally we have held several precinct voter registration sessions. In addition to evening and Saturday sessions we visited the Senior High School and the Heritage Hall Nursing Home so that persons eligible could become voters.

If there are any persons who because of physical disability cannot come to the town hall or one of the precincts, please call the Town Clerk's office so that arrangements can be made to register such a person.

The following is our total of registered voters broken down by party.

Democrats	5,110
Republicans	1,493
Independents	5,033
Total Voters	11,636

tion, protection of fisheries. The permit lasts for one year, at which time the applicant must request a Letter of Compliance, which the Commission will grant if all conditions have been met.

The Commission presently oversees twenty-seven active permits, which require periodic inspections and review. Old filings, which need to be extended, are completely reviewed at that time under the new Rules and Regulations and new Conditions are imposed if necessary.

From the period of July 1, 1974 through June 30, 1975, the Commission held nineteen public hearings and issued seventeen new permits and two denials. The Commission also processed two Requests to Determine Applicability of Wetlands Act, issued five Letters of Compliance, thirteen extensions for previous permits and issued four Cease and Desist Orders.

Of the seventeen permits issued, one, Forest Hills Estates, was appealed to the State Department of Environmental Affairs. The State Department substantially upheld the order issued by the Commission and the Commission agreed no further appeal was necessary.

In addition of course the Commission handles numerous complaints of filling and flooding and Wetlands violations as small as the individual, who desires to make his property more "attractive" by filling his swamp, or as large as Bondi Island.

In order for us to gather greater input to assist in our Commission's decisions affecting the public interest, we have instituted several programs including: up-dating the master plan, townwide national resource map of Agawam's wetlands, and education of school children about the gypsy moths under the direction of volunteer Ruth Richards has resulted in scout troops and school children painting gypsy moth eggs with creosote. We also assisted in teaching the high school biology club how to use water pollution test kits to monitor brooks and streams and this year, we began to plan to develop the Commission's property on School Street as an environmental classroom. The Commission hopes to encourage more public awareness in conservation by developing a program to present to various groups and organizations in the near future.

The Commission had hoped to hire a Conservation Officer this year and received responses from many qualified applicants, when we were informed that the PEP funds were no longer available. We hope that funding may again be provided in the near future as we see a real need for a person with expertise in Environment and Engineering to work in this capacity while Agawam needs it most, during its growth period.

SCHOOL MAINTENANCE



JULIAN L. MIODOWSKI
Supervisor, School Maintenance

It is the Town's responsibility to maintain nine schools with 105 acres of land.

The chart below identifies the school and its available space. The present value of this plant is conservatively estimated to be some sixteen million dollars.

School	Acres Maintained	Floor Area	Date of Construction
Senior High	25	141,000 sq. ft.	1955, 1961
Junior High	30	131,000 sq. ft.	1973
Middle School	8	89,982 sq. ft.	1921, 1929, 1963
Phelps	14	35,000 sq. ft.	1936, 1951
Clark	15	32,000 sq. ft.	1957
Granger	5	3,650 sq. ft.	1950, 1965
Peirce	1	8,000 sq. ft.	1916, 1928
Robinson	6	42,000 sq. ft.	1960
Danahy	1	15,000 sq. ft.	1900, 1926, 1951
Totals	105	527,632 sq. ft.	

Department personnel consists of 32 custodians who work inside the schools, seven maintenance men who are responsible for the grounds and repair work, a secretary and a supervisor. We intend to add skilled tradesmen to this force in order to offset the increasing price level of contractual help.

During the last year, significant progress has been made in updating heating and lighting equipment and maintaining a higher standard of cleanliness.

Major maintenance projects involving roof modifications at the Senior High, Robinson Park, James Clark and Granger, installation of sprinklers, heat and smoke sensors at Danahy, Peirce and the Middle Schools; window replacement at Danahy and Peirce; plus oil burner and boiler work at several schools are currently being considered by the Town Council. These are all important projects designed to safeguard children and property as well as to control costs of heating, our largest single expense.

Maintenance personnel make a contribution to the welfare of our children by providing a clean, comfortable place to learn as well as for being a friend.

Our objective continues to be to provide the best possible service at the lowest possible cost.

CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY

In connection with the Bicentennial theme, it is comforting to report that Civil Defense is no longer actively concerned with global conflicts or nuclear disaster. Federal, State, and Local emphasis is currently directed at potential emergencies that result from floods, tornadoes, conflagrations, power outages, and similar events.

Pursuant to the above goals our principal activity is in radio communications training, and the updating of the two-way radio and mobile warning units.

Another related on-going function is the improvement of communications with our neighboring communities in the event of need for mutual aid, and more frequent contacts with emergency resources outside our own community, such as the Red Cross, National Guard, and Westover Field. This aspect has become all the more important as a result of retrenchment of the nearest State C.D. field organization to its Area Four Headquarters in Belchertown, Mass.

One regretful incident to report is the untimely passing of our long time and highly esteemed Deputy Director, and Communications Officer, Albert M. Jackson in January, 1975. To carry on those functions, James Loomis, Jr., Radiac Officer, agreed to take on additionally as Deputy Director, and Theodore Lockwood to become Communications, both duly appointed by the Town Manager.

Arthur Zavarella
C.D. Director

The Commission has accomplished a great deal of work this year because of the efforts of its seven members, Bob Scalise, Henry Kozloski, Ron Lech, Ed Naciewicz, George Fleming, Leon Alechny and Chairman Dorothy Nelsen, who have given unselfishly of their time for the betterment of their community.

Dorothy A. Nelsen, Chairperson
Agawam Conservation Commission

Connelly-Quinn Comment "On Fair Share"

Rep. Connelly

With the primary elections now resolved, attention must be given to the final elections to be held on November 2.

I have participated in over 2,500 roll call votes during these past three terms and there will undoubtedly be a few pounced upon to create an issue. Already, the Uniform Electric Rate or "Fair Share" vote has been highlighted by my opponent.

The Uniform Electric Rate will appear as question #7 on the ballot in November and be resolved by all the Massachusetts voters. A summary of the question indicates that electric utility companies would charge a uniform rate per kilowatt hour irrespective of use category (commercial, industrial, residential). Exemptions would cover rates charged other electric utility companies, all-electric residences, the first 300 kilowatt hours per month of residential usage, and peak load use.

There is an assumption that business and industry can best conserve electrical use, thus lessening the cost impact of flat rates for everyone. The lessening of rates would free an estimated 40-50 million dollars to stimulate the economy. It would simultaneously constitute an equitable and conservation-oriented energy policy.

The adverse effect lies mainly and most importantly in potential flight of industry thereby reducing available jobs, as well as increased costs to Universities and hospitals.

Nevertheless, the Fair Share people have made an extremely valid, successful attempt to spotlight the high cost of energy, caused by our greater dependence on foreign oil imports, which has robbed the working family of dollars which otherwise would be spent to improve their quality of life. There is now legislation which will undoubtedly be passed this year providing for rate revision based on peak load usage. This will benefit business and industry to a greater extent and also provide a measure of relief to the residential user. The utilities as well as Fair Share have agreed to the compromise and it would seem that the ballot question will be defeated.

When I debated this issue on the floor of the House, I did so to establish a forum. Pointing out that the matter did not truly belong in our legislative consideration but that it was there because of the inability of the Congress and the Administration to meet the energy problem head on in order to resolve its dire impact on the American family. Our dependence on foreign oil import has risen from 16% of usage in 1973 when the OPEC nations quadrupled the price of oil, to approximately 40% dependence in 1976. That is the real problem facing utilities who pay the high cost of oil used to produce energy, and then pass it on to the consumer.

Never mind the Fair Share vote — how about the people who use the now high cost electricity to light their homes and have seen the cost of home heating oil rise from

19¢ per gallon to over 40¢ per gallon. It is up to the U.S. Congress to act, and they haven't yet, or we'll be considering "Fair Share" on natural gas, gasoline and home heating oil, as well as electricity.

Quinn

Now that the primary elections are over, William Quinn, Democratic candidate for state representative from the Third Hampden District in Agawam has begun the final stage of his campaign.

His latest comments are concerned with Referendum Question 7 on the November ballot-flat electric rates.

"Supporters of this referendum are misleading the public into thinking that they will save money if business and industry are forced to pay higher electric rates," Quinn said. "In reality," he continued, "business will simply pass the cost onto the consumer by charging higher prices for their goods and services, and the public should certainly be made aware of this fact."

Quinn said that if the referendum is passed, it would continue to weaken the economy of the state by driving key industries out and discouraging other businesses from locating in Massachusetts. "If this referendum is passed, it would cost the state thousands of jobs," Quinn added, "and the state and local tax rates would increase to compensate for the loss of business and industry." "A reduction of \$1.50 in a worker's monthly electric bill will certainly not mean much if the person loses his or her job as a result," he said.

The candidate also expressed concern for the effects that the flat electric rate system would have on housing for the elderly, nursing homes and schools in Agawam. Quinn said that according to Michael Coffey, Manager of Energy Consulting Services for the Western Mass. Electric Co., electric rates for housing for the elderly units in Agawam would increase by 17%, and the rates for schools and nursing homes could increase by as much as 40%.

Quinn said that his opponent, Edward Connelly, voted for the flat electric rate proposal when it was brought before the State Legislature in the form of an initiative petition during the last session. "Agawam certainly deserves a state representative who is more aware of the issues and can foresee the potentially disastrous consequences of proposals such as the flat electric rate system," Quinn said.

"A more realistic proposal for reducing the overall electric rates in the state would be to have the consumer pay more for use of electricity during the peak hours of 2 to 5 p.m. and less during the off hours," Quinn suggested. "This would discourage the overuse of electricity during these key hours and would decrease the need for constructing new power plants, a major cost factor in our current electric rates," he concluded.

CARMEL CORNER

SUFFIELD STREET at SILVER STREET
AGAWAM, MASS. • 786-3952

SPECIALS

NOW THRU SUN., SEPT. 26

A COMPLETE LINE OF NEW FALL APPLES & BARTLETT PEARS

— FEATURING —
MACS, CORTLANDS,
DELICIOUS, TYDEMANS

CALIFORNIA
PLUMS 3 LBS. **99¢**

DECORATE YOUR
HOME WITH SOME
OF OUR FANCY ...

**COLORED GOURDS
INDIAN CORN
PUMPKINS**

COLORFUL WINTER
SQUASHES OF ALL KINDS

FANCY
ONIONS 10 lbs. **\$1.09**

DELI

**ROAST
BEEF**

\$1.99

LB.

**LARGE
EGGS**

83¢

DOZEN

Baked FOR you

**DONUTS
PIES • BAGELS
CHEESECAKE
• HOT •
PRETZELS**

A complete
Line of
PASTENE
Specialties

All Types of
PEPPERS
EGGPLANTS
OLIVES &
FISH

Imported
MENUCCI
MACARONI

SEE OUR LINE OF
GOURMET FOODS



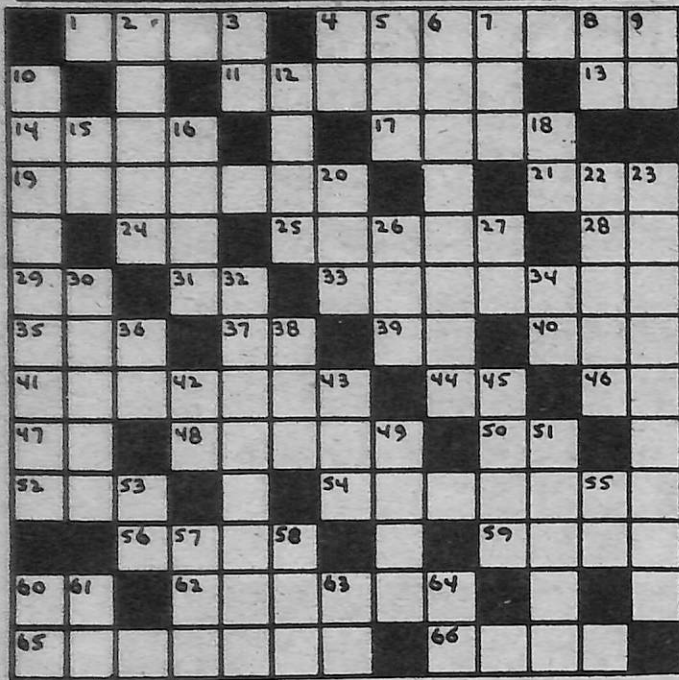
CARMEL CORNER

MON.-SAT., 9-9

SUN., 9-7

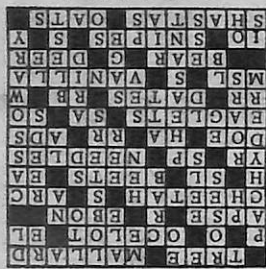


CROSSWORD • • • By A. C. Gordon



- ACROSS**
- 1 - ... of knowledge
 - 4 - Game bird
 - 11 - American wild cat
 - 13 - Aerial train
 - 14 - Building part
 - 17 - Black
 - 19 - The swiftest animal
 - 21 - Circle part
 - 24 - South Latitude (abb.)
 - 25 - Vegetables
 - 28 - Everyone individually (abb.)
 - 29 - Time division (abb.)
 - 31 - Navy shore patrol (abb.)
 - 33 - Phonograph parts
 - 35 - Mrs. Deer
 - 37 - Exclamation
 - 39 - Public conveyance (abb.)
 - 40 - Public announcements
 - 41 - Young birds of prey
 - 44 - Samarium (chem.)
 - 46 - Thus
 - 47 - Right Reverend (abb.)
 - 48 - Engagements

- 50 - Rubidium (chem.)
 - 52 - Mean Sea Level (abb.)
 - 54 - Flavor extract
 - 56 - Endure
 - 59 - Animal
 - 60 - Zeus' beloved
 - 62 - Shoots covertly
 - 65 - Daisies
 - 66 - Grains
- DOWN**
- 2 - Flowers
 - 3 - Educational Orders (abb.)
 - 4 - Pronoun
 - 5 - A brew
 - 6 - Marine crustaceans
 - 7 - Latin Technical Organization (abb.)
 - 8 - In reference to



- 9 - Roman 550
- 10 - Thick-skinned animal
- 12 - A missed rowing stroke
- 15 - Phenyl (chem.)
- 16 - Lampreys
- 18 - Sodium (chem.)
- 20 - Mrs. Fowl
- 22 - Types of musical instruments
- 23 - Australian bird
- 26 - Poetical "always"
- 27 - Sine Die (abb.)
- 30 - Loud outcries
- 32 - Game bird
- 34 - Musical note
- 36 - For example (Latin Abb.)
- 38 - ...orney
- 42 - Lord (abb.)
- 43 - ...en Hills of Rome
- 45 - Parched
- 49 - Wise
- 51 - Blissful
- 53 - Weight unit
- 55 - "Vive .. roil"
- 57 - The snaky letter
- 58 - ...lto, a theater district
- 60 - Exists
- 61 - Exclamation
- 63 - Correspondence afterthought
- 64 - Thus



The longest bicycle ever built was a tandem seating 10 people.

NEWS

IN PICTURES



Arctic Scene

An oilfield drilling rig in the Arctic Circle, only a hundred miles from the earth's magnetic pole, drills for oil and gas in an ambitious exploration program in which Tenneco Inc. and other companies are participating. The pulley in the center is used to hoist drillpipe upright into the derrick, part of which frames this bleak and frigid scene.

TV COMMENTARY

By Bente Christensen

CBS and "The New York Times" curiously failed to cover adequately the hard-hitting speech of Senator Bob Dole at the mid-August Republican convention.

In a one-hour documentary following the convention CBS included parts of speeches by John Connally, Howard Baker and others but nothing from the one really hard-hitting speech of that convention—Dole's.

INSTEAD, it carried a bit of his acceptance speech. It was in that speech that Dole used Jimmy Carter's own words to point to alleged contradictions.

RERUNS of "Cannon" during the summer have created viewer sentiment against network plans eliminating the fatman series.

JIM Crockett's garden

show, over public service television, is among the best programs on any network; it's amazing how many educational and helpful tips Boston's Crockett packs into half an hour.

NBC got the majority vote of newsmen at the Republican convention for best coverage.

ABC has gone all-out on space programs to win viewers. For children and those with a weakness for these space flights, space people and zany uniforms, it's hot stuff. But in cashing-in on the glamor of the U.S. space program, the process often gets ridiculous and silly.

IF the first of four planned Ford-Carter debates is on defense, Ford will have a distinct background advantage.

ABOUT YOUR

HOME

By April Rhodes

If you plan to make fall plantings of shrubs or fruit trees, order your needs now from nursery stock to be delivered at the proper planting time in your area.

It may still be rather warm in your area but you would be wise to caulk all cracks around windows, doors and other sealed joints about your home to keep out the chill of fall and winter winds.

Now that lazy hours in the sun are over, take care to use a good lubricating cream on your tanned skin and a cream rinse on your hair.

Have you noticed the fashionable knitted and crocheted pattern directions in recent magazines? If so, get busy and make shells and other fall creations.

For extra cabinet space, pull out a cabinet drawer and place your pastry board or a tray across the open drawer.

Save labels from new clothes and write the name of the garment on each label to assure correct laundering or cleaning.

To keep nylon rope or cord from unraveling, heat the cut ends with a match until the plastic starts to melt.

Be sure to date this year's packages for the freezer and use all left over food first.

ROSEMOND COIFFURES

FOR MEN & WOMEN

175 GARDEN ST., FEEDING HILLS

MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY

- Shampoo & Set \$4.00
- Blow Cuts \$7.50
- Color \$8.50
- Bleach \$13.00
- Frosting \$17.50



PHONE 786-4239

MON.-FRI. 9-9 SAT. 8-5 • MEN'S NIGHT MON. TUES. WED.

WOLFE MOTOR SALES INC.

COLLEGE HWY., SOUTHWICK, MA.

"The Chevrolet Country Store"

★ **CHEVETTES** ★

4 Speeds & Automatics

★ **MONZAS** ★

5 Speeds & Automatics

★ **VEGAS** ★

5 Speeds & Automatics

★ **LUV TRUCKS** ★

4 Speeds

★ **COSWORTH** ★

Twin Cam — Fuel Inj.

— FREE —
5-YEAR RUSTPROOF

SALES STAFF: BETH, LIZ, DON

569-5561

OPEN MON., THURS., FRI. NIGHTS TILL 9

One in every four school children has a vision problem, according to The National Society for the Prevention of Blindness. Make sure your child's eyes are checked and get necessary treatment.



COME PLAY WITH US

The Lower Pioneer Collaborative is presently searching for 12 to 15 preschool youngsters, ages 3 and 4 to fill our Lab Nursery School. Clark School in Agawam will be the setting for our activities. The Lab School will have a dual purpose — fun and learning for the child itself and supervised experience of observing and guiding children for high school students enrolled in the Nursery School/Child Development course. Nursery School will open on Oct. 4, classes will be conducted Monday thru Thursday, 1-3. Call Collaborative office at 567-6274 for further information and pre-registration.

3 Brothers Serving In U.S. Navy



Richard Kieth Ringer



William Stephen Ringer



Dale Scott Ringer

Richard K., William S. and Dale S. Ringer sons of Mr. and Mrs. Richard I. Ringer of 198 Mill Street, Agawam are currently on active duty with the U.S. Navy and enlisted for the following school guarantees. Richard enlisted in the U.S. Navy 17 February, 1976 for three years active duty with a quartermaster class "A" (basic) school guarantee and completed nine weeks recruit training at Naval Recruit Training Center, Orlando, Fl. and completed the navy's six week quartermaster school at Orlando, Fl. He is currently assigned duty aboard USS

Ortolan ASR-22 (auxiliary repair ship), Homeport, Norfolk, Virginia.

William enlisted in the U.S. Navy 5 April, 1976 for three years active duty with a dental technician class "A" (basic) school guarantee and completed nine weeks recruit training at Naval Recruit Training Center, Orlando, Fl. and is scheduled to graduate from the Navy's twelve week Dental Technician School, San Diego, California, 15 September, 1976 and will be assigned duty aboard USS Fulton AD-11 (submarine tender), Homeport New London, Connecticut.

Dale enlisted in the U.S. Navy 28 May, 1976 for four years active duty with a radioman class "A" (basic) school guarantee and completed nine weeks recruit training at Naval Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. He is currently attending the navy's fourteen week radioman school at San Diego, California.

Richard, William and Dale are graduates of Agawam High and were enlisted into the U.S. Navy by Chief Petty Officer Bill Charon local navy recruiter at 74 Elm Street, Post Office Building, West Springfield, MA.

NEWS VIEWS

Thomas P. O'Neil, Democratic Leader (D-Mass): "The House has clearly shown it recognizes the need to relieve unemployment."

Alexander M. Schmidt, FOA Commissioner, on tranquilizer and pregnancy:

"The warning label we now require will provide physicians with the information they need to provide these drugs safely."

Walter Mondale, Democratic vice presidential candidate:

"We're going to have a government that obeys the law, a government that's open."

John Rhodes, House Republican Leader:

"I believe a Ford-Reagan ticket would unify the party and appeal to conservatives across the country."

Robert F. Bennett, Kansas Governor:

"I don't believe Schweiker will sell very well in Kansas."

Gerald Soffen, Chief Viking Scientist:

"I think we've got the elements necessary (for life). The question is, did it happen?"

NEWS NOTES

VIETNAM ONE BODY

BANGKOK, THAILAND -- Vietnam's unified national assembly has opened its first session at an outdoor ceremony in Hanoi at which leaders declared, "Vietnam is one. The Vietnamese are one."

WOULDN'T TAKE POST

COLUMBUS, GA. -- Gov. George Wallace of Alabama says he "would not accept a position if one were offered" to serve in the cabinet of a Jimmy Carter administration.

KISSINGER OPTIMISTIC

LONDON -- Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said that recent talks with South African Prime Minister John Vorster opened the way for ending southern Africa's racial unrest through negotiation instead of violence.

ITALY & COMMUNISTS

ROME -- Socialist leader Francesco De Martino said that his party could enter a coalition government with the Christian Democrats if the Communists were included in the parliamentary majority.

RICE SURPLUS

NEW YORK -- There is a surplus of rice around the world this summer and the United States has its largest surplus in 20 years.

SOVIETS & SPACE LAB

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Union launched a new space station in apparent preparation for further manned space missions.

WHAT'S IT WORTH TO BE WARM BEFORE, DURING & APRES-SKI?

We can keep you comfortable on the slope and in the lodge. With Duofold 2-layer underwear. All-cotton inner layer keeps you dry; woolen outer layer blocks out cold; air in between insulates to keep your body heat in. You stay comfortable in the lift line, the fall line and the chow line. Great for lounging pajamas, too. Machine washable! If you want to be warm in the cold and comfy where it's warm, it's worth coming in for a set or two of Duofold 2-layer underwear. Your size, styles and colors in stock now. **\$7.95 up**

duofold
2-LAYER UNDERWEAR



AGAWAM'S OWN SPORTING GOODS STORE

STUART'S
SPORTSMEN'S CENTRE

AGAWAM SHOPPING CENTER • NEXT TO FOOD MART
DAILY 'TIL 9 P.M. — SAT. 'TIL 5 P.M.

RAFFOL INSURANCE AGENCY

Insurance For Your Home, Car, Business
430 MAIN ST. AGAWAM • 786-2510

NOW IT'S NASSAU... AND BERMUDA TOO!

This Autumn enjoy both on
THE 7-DAY QUALITY CRUISES OF
\$^s **OCEANIC**
39,241 tons

Sailing Saturdays from New York
Economy season rates Sept. 11 to Nov. 20
from \$365

Rates per person, double occupancy. Stop in or call us for details on this or any other travel information you may require.



GLORIA GREGORY
Manager

AMPLE FREE
PARKING

786-7700
324 SPRINGFIELD ST.
AGAWAM



For children's bean bags, save peach and plum seeds and cherry pits. Wash and dry them and fill the bags. They are lightweight and easy to use.



SALE SEPT. 24
DATES. THRU SEPT 30

35 SOUTHWICK ST., FEEDING HILLS



BORDEN'S

OLD-FASHION
ICE CREAM

\$1.29

1/2 Gal.

REG. \$1.69



IMPORTED
CELEBRITY HAM .. **\$2.29** lb.

COME BACK SOON to OPEN PANTRY

BICENTENNIAL AMERICA

Colonel Washington Wins His First Battle

Few people in America realize it but an area of America called Penn's Southwest has had a tremendous impact on America's history. It was here that George Washington, then a colonel in the British Army, won his first battle.

On or about May 24, in the year 1754, Washington and his men, seeking a short cut to the forks of the Ohio River, were camped in an area known as Great Meadows (near present-day Farmington in Fayette County). He received a message that an armed body of French were in the area and were "resolved to strike the first English they see."

On the basis of this intelligence Washington assumed he was about to be attacked. He took 40 of his men and surrounded the French. What happened next is still a matter of dispute, depending largely on whether the story is told by French or Americans or English. It does seem that Washington accidentally revealed himself at the edge of a ravine, that the French saw him, shouted a warning, and ran for their muskets. Washington ordered his men to open fire and when the bat-

tle was over 10 Frenchmen lay dead and Washington found himself with 21 prisoners.



BIG SHOT—A shot fired in the backwoods of Penn's Southwest in 1754 touched off the last and greatest of the French and Indian Wars.

Thus in the backwoods of southwestern Pennsylvania was touched off the last and greatest of the French and Indian wars (1753-1760), called the Seven Years' War in Europe. Today, within a 500-mile radius of this area in Southwestern Pennsylvania lives nearly 70 percent of the nation's population, accounting for more than two-thirds the income in the United States. But then, the shots that were fired set in motion a series of events that would drive the French from North America.

CONSUMER

ORNER



How To Buy And Care For Pillows

Pillows are an important part of getting your proper rest, so you would do well to select yours with care—and care for it well.

Test a pillow before you buy it. Feel it with your hand, then put your head against it. Test it to see how it will feel to sleep on. A good pillow should be resilient and have no lumps or odors.

Check the label to see what your prospective pillow contains. Pillows are filled with different materials and this will make a difference in price and comfort. The softest and most luxurious pillow is made entirely of down, the soft, shaftless fluffs from the breasts of ducks and geese. For people who prefer their pillows firmer, there are pillows that are feather and down blends. The more feathers in the blend, the

firmer the pillow will be. The feather pillows will be the firmest of the naturals. Pillows are also made of polyester or foam rubber and these also tend to be firm. Feather and down pillows are considered a good investment because they will give you restful comfort for a long time.

Pillows also come in different sizes. You can choose from a standard, queen or king. What you select will depend on the size of your bed and how many pillows you like on it.



USE YOUR HEAD when picking a pillow—and caring for it afterwards.

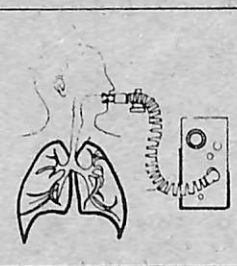
After you've purchased your pillow, keep it plump by fluffing it daily and pushing the corners towards the center so that the crown stays high. One tip that will help keep your feather and down pillows fresh is to pop them into the dryer every month or so on low heat for ten minutes. This will take out the humidity and keep the pillows resilient.

To launder your pillow check the care label for the right washing and drying instructions and follow them carefully. Laundering your pillows will renew their freshness and restore the original qualities. If you care for your pillows properly you'll have them for many years...so select carefully and budget for good pillows...it's one of the keys to a proper night's sleep.

SHOPPING FOR VALUE

Shopping for good value is easier when you know what to look for. An alert consumer may spend 10 to 20 percent less on each weekly shopping bill. Here's some canny advice that may help you get better value for your dollar.

When looking for best value in steaks for broiling look for USDA prime. Prime grade beef is the ultimate in tenderness, juiciness and flavor.



IF YOU SUFFER

FROM

•EMPHYSEMA

•BRONCHITIS

•ASTHMA

Portable Hospital Quality Respiratory Equipment
In Your Home

24 Hour Professional Service

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY

We bill Medicare direct.



Medical HomeCare Services
OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

CALL COLLECT 413-782-7641

NOW OPEN! SINFONIA MUSIC

SALES • INSTRUMENT RENTALS

— MUSIC LESSONS IN —

TRUMPET, TROMBONE, FLUTE, CLARINET
SAXOPHONE, GUITAR, DRUMS

INSTRUMENTS • ACCESSORIES • SHEET &
ROCK MUSIC • FAST REPAIR SERVICE

499 SPRINGFIELD ST., FEEDING HILLS, MA.

786-0364 •

MON.-FRI. — 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
SAT. — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"COME IN AND COMPARE"

Your pledge promotes his progress.



You're needed to extend a hand
to those who
need it most.

United Way
of Pioneer Valley



P.O. Box 3040, Springfield, Mass. 01101 Tel. 737-2691

Thanks to you it works.

QUALITY USED CAR

SALE

SARAT MUST CLEAN OUT ITS HUGE INVENTORY OF NEW AND QUALITY USED CARS! TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE EVEN LARGER INVENTORY OF 1977 FORD CARS THAT ARE NOW ON THEIR WAY!

'76 SKYLARK LANDAU V6, air cond. ...	\$4695	'72 MAVERICK 2 dr., auto.	\$2295
'75 FORD CUST. 500 police car	\$1495	'72 BUICK SKYLARK 2 door, hard top. ...	\$1995
'75 PLYMOUTH 4 door police car	\$1495	'71 DATSUN WAGON automatic	\$1995
'75 BUICK CENTURY 4 door, h-top ...	\$2995	'71 MUSTANG MX V8, automatic	\$1895
'75 PINTO 2 door, hard top	\$2795	'71 PLYM. SEBRING 2 dr., hard top ...	\$2195
'75 THUNDERBIRD fully equipped	\$5995	'71 VEGA WAGON 4 cyl., 4 spd.	\$995
'75 ELITE air cond., int. decor.	\$4595	'71 MERC. COUGAR XR-7 air	\$2295
'75 DASHER WAGON 4 speed	\$3895	'70 CHALLENGER V8, power	\$1495
'74 ELITE air cond., int. decor.	\$4195	'70 LINCOLN CONTINENTAL air	\$2095
'74 SUPER BEETLE am-fm	\$2595	'69 VOLVO 142 automatic	\$1495
'74 MUSTANG II 4 speed	\$2795	'68 MERC. COUGAR 3 speed, V8	\$1995
'74 PLYMOUTH cruiser, air cond.	\$995	SARAT TRUCKS	
'74 PINTO-RUNABOUT 3 dr., 4 spd. ...	\$2695	'76 FORD F-100 V8, std., power	\$3995
'74 FIAT 124 4 speed	\$2395	'75 FORD F-100 4x4 with plow	\$5295
'74 CHEVY BISCAYNE police car	\$1395	'75 BRONCO automatic, V8	\$5295
'74 MUSTANG FASTBACK V6, auto.	\$2895	'74 AMC 4x4 PICKUP special, at	\$3895
'73 BUICK REGAL 2 dr., air, pwr.	\$2995	'74 DODGE D-200 power wgn., w. plow	
'73 VEGA HATCHBACK 4 spd., 4 cyl. ...	\$1595		\$4895
'73 AMC SPORT 6, auto.	\$2195	'74 CHEV. LUV PICKUP 4 spd., 4 cyl. ...	\$2695
'73 DATSUN 610 2 door, 4 spd.	\$2395	'73 F-600 CHASSIS & CAB 194" w.b. ...	\$2995
'73 THUNDERBIRD air cond., loaded ...	\$3995	'73 DODGE SPORTSMAN D-300 8-pass.	
'73 JAVELIN 2 dr., V8, pwr.	\$2195		\$3595
'73 AMC AMBASSADOR air	\$2195	'73 CHEV. SUBURBAN V8, auto.	\$3595
'73 CHEVELLE 2 dr., V8, auto., pwr. ...	\$2495	'73 FORD CLUB WGN. V8, auto., pwr. ...	\$3895
'73 GRAN TORINO squire wgn., air ...	\$2995	'73 FORD E-200 V8, 3 spd., VAN ...	\$2895
'72 GRAN TORINO wagon	\$1895	'72 INTERNATIONAL ¾ tn w/plow ...	\$3295
'72 PLYMOUTH station wgn., std.	\$1695	'72 FORD CLUB WGN. 3 pass., pwr. ...	\$2695
'72 PINTO automatic	\$1895	'72 FORD E-300 CARGO VAN V8, auto ...	\$2695
'72 CHEV. VEGA 4 speed	\$895	'71 INTERNATIONAL 1200S	
'72 CHEVELLE 2 DR., HT, auto.	\$1995	CHASSIS & CAN w/plow	\$2395
'72 VOLKS 411 squareback, auto.	\$2395	'71 F350 STAKE BODY 4 spd., V8 ...	\$2395
'72 FORD CUST. 500, w/g, ac, 10 pass.		'71 F-100 PICKUP 6 cyl., std.	\$1895
	\$2395		

47 YEARS
SERVING
THE
ENTIRE
SPRINGFIELD
AREA

**SARAT
FORD**

250 SPRINGFIELD ST.
AGAWAM
786-0430

HBO HOME BOX OFFICE

On Cable This Week

SATURDAY/25
 1:30 **PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING**
 From Pittsburgh
 4:00 **SIR GAWAIN & THE GREEN KNIGHT** Children's Theatre
 6:00 **THE DROWNING POOL** (PG-1:48)
 8:00 **THE MASTER GUNFIGHTER** (PG-1:51)
 10:00 **ON LOCATION:** David Brenner
 11:00 **PRE-SEASON NHL HOCKEY**
 L.A. Kings vs. Vancouver Canucks, from the L.A. Forum

SUNDAY/26
 1:30 **TOWERING INFERNO** (PG-2:45)
 4:30 **PROFESSIONAL BOWLING**
 From Pittsburgh
 6:00 **TOWERING INFERNO** (PG-2:45)
 9:00 **CONDUCT UNBECOMING**
 Sunday Premiere (PG-1:47)
 11:00 **ALI-NORTON SPECIAL**
 12:00 **ON LOCATION:** David Brenner

MONDAY/27
 1:30 **CONDUCT UNBECOMING** (PG-1:47)
 3:30 **THE VOYAGE** (PG-1:43)
 5:15 **COMING YOUR WAY ON HBO**
 5:30 **MR. E FROM TAU CETI**
 Children's Theatre
 7:00 **THE VOYAGE** (PG-1:43)
 8:45 **COMING YOUR WAY ON HBO**
 9:00 **CONDUCT UNBECOMING** (PG-1:47)
 11:00 **THE VOYAGE** (PG-1:43)

TUESDAY/28
 2:00 **THE PALLISERS:** Episode 22
 3:00 **THINGS TO COME** (1:36)
 4:45 **MARTHA'S ATTIC**
 Bonjour, Mon Amie
 5:15 **SIR GAWAIN & THE GREEN KNIGHT** Children's Theatre
 7:00 **THE MASTER GUNFIGHTER** (PG-1:51)
 9:00 **THINGS TO COME** (1:36)
 11:00 **THE MASTER GUNFIGHTER** (PG-1:51)

WEDNESDAY/29
 2:00 **THE PALLISERS:** Episode 23
 3:00 **THE MAIDS** (1:35)
 4:45 **COMING YOUR WAY ON HBO**
 5:00 **THE KING'S SECRET, THE SPACE EXPLORERS, THE ENCHANTED PRINCESS**
 Children's Theatre
 7:00 **THREE MUSKETEERS** (PG-1:47)
 9:00 **THE MAIDS**
 American Film Theatre (1:35)
 10:45 **COMING YOUR WAY ON HBO**
 11:00 **PRE-SEASON NHL HOCKEY**
 L.A. Kings vs. Cleveland Barons, from the L.A. Forum

WASHINGTON NOTES

ON CIGARETTES

Because untaxed cigarettes sold on military bases cost as much as \$2 a carton less than in civilian stores, "cigarette bootlegging has become a significant problem in some states," a government agency reports.

ON PEANUT SUBSIDY

The House Agriculture Committee has approved a bill ending government controls on peanut acreage and reducing federal support floors for the crop.

TO SUBPOENA SCHORR

The House Ethics Committee voted to subpoena CBS correspondent Daniel Schorr in an effort to find out who leaked the secret House Intelligence Committee report to him.

GAS TAX HIKE

A one-half-cent-a-gallon hike in the federal gasoline tax was approved by the Senate Finance Committee to pay for a package of energy-conservation programs and tax benefits.

RURAL TOWNS & CRIME

Serious crime is increasing at a faster rate in rural America and the smaller towns than it is in the big cities, according to an FBI report.

FOR EDUCATION

The Senate has passed a \$35.3 billion authorization bill extending for six years federal assistance to higher education and vocational education.

TAX ADJUSTMENT

Senate-House conferees have agreed to restrict sharply tax deductions for workers and businessmen who use a portion of their homes in connection with their jobs.

ONE MINUTE SPORTS QUIZ

1. Name the winner of the Little League world championship.
2. Who won the American Golf Classic?
3. Who won the women's doubles in the Federation Cup?
4. Randy Moffitt pitches for what pro baseball team?
5. Name the AP preseason choice for No. 1 in college football.

Answers To Sports Quiz

1. Tokyo, Japan.
2. David Graham.
3. Rosemary Casals and Billie Jean King.
4. San Francisco Giants.
5. Nebraska.



By 1700, wild turkeys were becoming scarce in America.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 23, 1976

Mass. Auto
 Inspection Reform Panel
 Open Meeting
 7:30
 Agawam Jr. High School

SEPTEMBER 25-26

Scleroderma
 Research Benefit-
 Tag Sale
 10:00-5:00
 45 High St.
 Family & Friends of
 Ruth Borgatti

SEPTEMBER 27, 1976

Agawam Women's
 Club Meeting
 8:00 p.m.
 Capt. Charles
 Leonard House
 Main St.

OCTOBER 1, 1976

VFW Banquet
 & Ball
 7:30
 Silver Coach Inn
 1520 Main St.

OCTOBER 2, 1976

VFW Parade,
 Open House, Dedication
 1:00 p.m.
 VFW Post
 South St.

OCTOBER 3, 1976

Chicken Bar-B-Q
 11:00
 VFW Pavilion
 South St.

A public service of:



CURRAN-JONES
 FUNERAL HOME

109 MAIN STREET WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
 745 COOPER STREET AGAWAM, MASS.

HELP WANTED
NURSES AIDES FOR
PART-TIME WORK
TRAINING PROVIDED
MATURE INDIVIDUALS

DESIRED
APPLY HERITAGE HALL
NURSING HOME WEST

61 COOPER ST., AGAWAM

786-8000

(EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER)

Elegance From Agawam Opticians



We proudly announce the availability of the complete line of Diane Von Furstenberg eyewear.

AGAWAM OPTICIANS



334 WALNUT ST. — 786-0719



Carr Cadillac, Inc.
 cordially invites you and your friends
 to see and drive the new
Cadillac for 1977
 now on display in our showroom
 10 Mill Street, Springfield

NEXT TIME TRY
AGAWAM'S LEADING
DRY CLEANER
HOURLY GLASS CLEANERS
NOW IN OUR 17TH YEAR
WALNUT PLAZA, 380 WALNUT ST.

Gov. Announces Bikeway System



Governor Michael Dukakis and Public Works Commissioner John Carroll announced today that the first steps have been taken toward the establishment of a comprehensive State and Regional Bikeway System. The DPW will not invite bids for the first 16 links of the system located in communities across the state.

Funding for these initial projects comes from \$1,000,000 authorized for bikeways in the state's 1975 Transportation Bond Issue. This legislation provided the first state funding specifically marked for bikeways.

In announcing the completion of planning for the first projects, the Governor said: "These first 100 miles of bikeways now ready for construction represent the efforts of local, state, and regional planning agencies to provide bicyclists with routes which they can use both for recreation and for commuting."

According to Commissioner Carroll the bikeways have been planned in much the same way as for highways, with priorities being set at the local level. Three classes have been assigned to the 16 bikeways selected for construction:

Class I: a bicycle path separate and apart from a motor vehicle road;

Class II: one lane of a motor vehicle road marked specifically for bicycles only;

Class III: a motor vehicle road with signs posted for bicycle riders but with no separate land for bicycles only;

There may be a combination of the three classes on any one bikeway. In planning the routes, the DPW Bureau of Transportation Planning and Development worked closely with local and regional planning agencies.

"These first routes will tie into 13 regional bikeway systems which will interconnect across the state, thereby providing cyclists with marked routes across the Commonwealth," Governor Dukakis said. He added that pilot projects are not being developed for bike routes in the Five College area in western Mass. and along the Route 3 Corridor between Boston and the Cape for commuter and recreational use.

The projects approved for immediate action are in the following communities:

Adams, 6 miles, Class II, \$40,000; Agawam, 5 miles, Classes I & II, \$75,000; Attleboro, 32 miles, Class III, \$43,500; Brockton, 4 miles, Classes I & II, \$120,000; Fitchburg, 2.25 miles, Class I, \$18,000; Groton, 4 miles, Class II, \$24,000; Holden, 8 miles, Class II, \$54,000; Leominster, 6.4 miles, Class II, \$18,250; North Attleboro, 10 miles, Class II, \$13,000; Orleans-Brewster, 1.5 miles, Class I, \$75,000; Somerset-Swansea, 14 miles, Classes I & II & III, \$12,000; Nantucket, 3 miles, Class I, \$90,000; Northampton, 2.6 miles, Class I, \$118,666; and Amherst 5.5 miles, Class & II, \$61,500.

The money remaining from the Approved \$1,000,000 program will be used for projects in the following communities, pending the completion of design details and approval by the communities and appropriate Regional Planning Agencies: Princeton, \$36,000; Worcester, \$90,000; Lowell, \$100,000; Boston, \$200,000; and Norton \$23,500.

Governor Dukakis commended Senator Edward Burke of Framingham and Representative Louis Nickinello of Natick, co-chairmen of the Legislature's Joint Transportation Committee as well as Senators William M. Bulger of Boston and William L. Saltonstall of Manchester for providing the leadership needed to authorize the funds in the Transportation Bond Issue.

Scleroderma Fund Tag Sale

A Tag sale in memory of Ruth Borgatti for Scleroderma research will be held September 25 and 26, 1976 at 45 High Street, Agawam, Mass. from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. All articles for sale were donated by the many friends of the late Ruth and her husband and family. "We have many articles such as books, clothing, sinks, doors, appliances, golf carts, jewelry, dishes, lamps, and some antiques" says her husband Gubby.

All monies derived from this sale will be brought to

the National Scleroderma Club in New Castle Penn. and turned over to Dr. Stanley Jacob Scientist and Researcher from the Medical Research Foundation of the University of Portland Oregon.

Thus far there is not any cure for this disease because there is no known cause for this affliction. Hopefully in New Castle, Dr. Jacob will report some of progress made to combat Scleroderma. Gubby and friends hope to see many people at the tag sale.

AHS Band Elects New Officers

Agawam High Band begins new year with new slate of officers:

Student elected officers for this year include:

President: Anna Nascembeni; Vice-Pres.: Robin Robinson; Secretary: Mary DeGrandpre; Treasurer: Gary Bouchard; Librarian: Caron Ouellette; Manager: Mark Rolland.

Drum Majors for this year are:

Jodi Bellamore, and Andrea Nasciewicz.

Color Guard Captain: Lois Borgatti.

In addition to playing for football games and rallies, the band will make an appearance at the Eastern States Exposition on Thursday, Sept. 23 (Mass. Day) in the afternoon parade and also may be entering the Columbus Day Parade on Oct. 10; the University of Conn. High School Band Day on Oct. 30 and the State Marching Band Contest in Lowell on November 11.

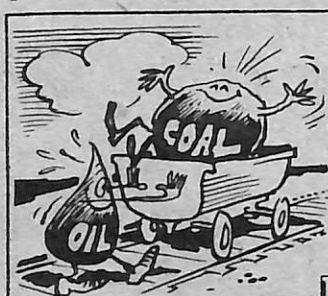
SPAN Program For Dropouts

SPAN Center has an ongoing G.E.D. Program for persons who have not completed their high school education. The program offers the opportunity to obtain a General Education Diploma. Although the G.E.D. Program is the responsibility of a SPAN staff person, it depends greatly on a staff of volunteers to make this program possible. At this

time we are looking for interested volunteers who have 2 to 4 hours weekly and who would be willing to work in this area. Of course we are also looking for people who are interested in getting their G.E.D. For further information about our volunteer program or our G.E.D. Program, please call Ruth at SPAN — 786-6410. WE NEED YOU!



Q. Do American oil companies own any coal mines?



A. Yes, but only a small percentage. About 12 percent of all known proved U.S. coal reserves are owned by oil companies.



RUSSO OPTICIANS

1421 WESTFIELD ST.
WEST SPRINGFIELD
734-5502

1236 PARKER ST.
(cor. Wilbraham Rd.)
SPRINGFIELD
783-9315

Lunette Optique
by **YVES SAINT LAURENT**

RAYMOND ANTHONY
HAIR STYLES
430 MAIN ST., AGAWAM 786-9488



VILLAGE TRADER

Suffield Village, Suffield, Conn.
668-0161

Our bath and cookery
Boutique is now open.
Come in and browse.

Through our Fall
line of
merchandise.
Our Sept. Special
\$19.95 Bathroom scale
for \$9.95 in white,
brown, yellow.

H. Phillip Designs

Jewelry of Distinction
Sept. Special, Take
20% Off all Seiko
watches in stock
including new fall
models.

FREE DELIVERY TO
OUR MASS. CUSTOMERS
No Sales Tax Charged

FINE JEWELERS SINCE 1968
JEWELRY DESIGNING
WATCH AND JEWELRY REPAIRING

WE REPAIR

MUSICAL
INSTRUMENTS

**SCHOOL
INSTRUMENTS RENTED**
CONSIDERING THE SERVICE WE
GIVE, OUR RATES ARE MODEST.

- ★ WE TAKE PRIDE IN OUR REPAIR WORK.
- ★ WE HAVE HAD TO RE-SERVICE OTHERS' REPAIR WORK
- ★ OUR CUSTOMERS ARE SURE OF FAST RELIABLE SERVICE (ASK YOUR FRIENDS)
- ★ WE DELIVER ANYWHERE

CHALERO MUSIC CO.
331 DWIGHT ST., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

734-3240

LOUISA'S LETTER

Dear Louisa,

I have this problem and I thought you could help me. Well, these two boys love me and I don't love them. They are both cute. But what shall I do. I don't want to hurt them. Please help me.

I am looking for your answer.

R.C.--Miss.

Answer:

Are you sure that both of these boys are in love with you? Very often our imaginations run away with us and we put meanings into glances and words that are not really what we think they mean.

If both of these boys have told you that they love you and you do not return their affection, be truthful with them and let them know that you like them both, as good

friends, only. In this way it will not be your fault if they are hurt.

Louisa.

Dear Louisa,

My sister sent me a beautiful wool dress but the collar looks faded. I want to wear it but how can I made the collar brighter?

R.G.--Ala.

Answer:

Circular cut-out necklines are very good this season so if the rest of the dress is good, why not do away with the collar? If the sleeves are out-of-date, the best solution would be that of turning the dress into a jumper and wearing it with a blouse.

Louisa.

Address letters: Louisa, Box 532, Orangeburg, S.C. 29115

RECIPE

By Sarah Anne Sheridan

Cooler weather will soon be here and the spicy aroma of oven-baked fish will quicken the appetite. However, one should remember the dressing is the secret success of a baked striped bass or some other fish native to your area. We share this recipe which is one of our favorite dressings for fish.

Baked Fish

- 1 3 or 4 lb. striped bass.
- 1/2 c chopped onion
- 1/3 c chopped green pepper
- 1/4 c chopped celery
- 1/2 c chopped parsley
- 6 T butter or margarine
- 1 1/4 c soft bread crumbs
- 1 dozen oysters or shrimp (fresh or frozen)
- Salt and pepper

Cut cleaned fish along back bone--being careful not to cut through skin. Cook onion, pepper and celery 5 minutes in butter --do not brown. Add crumbs, oysters or shrimp and parsley, seasonings and oyster liquid or hot water to moisten crumbs. Heat thoroughly and fill cavity in fish with mixture. Place on greased, heavy tin foil in broiler pan--crushing tin foil around fish to hold dressing in cavity. Dot butter over fish and add a few drops of lemon juice. Bake in oven 400 degrees about 30 minutes or until fish flakes easily with fork.

STARKIE MUSICAL RENTAL & SALES CO.

QUALITY

QUANTITY

BAND, GUITAR & ORCHESTRA INSTRUMENT

• RENTALS •

FITTED TO THE INDIVIDUAL PUPIL & PARENTS

4 MO. RENTALS FOR PRICE OF 3

Flutes Available at Regular Prices

SCHOOLS ARE OUR SPECIALTY

"The Teacher Oriented Business With The Customer In Mind"

INDIVIDUAL DEMONSTRATIONS & RENTALS OF INSTRUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

RENT EARLY—NO RAIN CHECKS

Repair Service, Music & Accessories Available

FREE DELIVERY IN AGAWAM
(CALL FOR PARTICULARS)



COUPON

\$5.00 TOWARD RENTAL OF ONE INSTRUMENT (FLUTES EXCLUDED)

Redeem at **STARKIE**

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT CO.

107 MAPLE SHADE AVE.

EAST LONGMEADOW, MA. 525-2628

Open 1 To 8 Daily



SMILES

Different Goal

She: You say I'm the most beautiful, divine, and gorgeous creature in the whole world? Are you trying to kid me?

He: No. I'm trying to kiss you.

Must Be

Voice: "How do you feel this morning?"

Second Voice: "Fine."

Voice: "I guess I have the wrong number."

The Meaning

Boy--Dad, what is meant when they say "beastly weather?"

Dad--It means it's raining cats and dogs.

Crossed 'Em Up

G. Man: Got away did he? Did you guard all the exits?

Policeman: Yes, but we think he must have left by one of the entrances.

The PLANT PLACE

692 MAIN ST., W. SPRINGFIELD

734-4411

QUALITY HOUSE PLANTS AT REASONABLE PRICES
"WEEKLY SPECIALS"

OPEN DAILY & SATURDAY 10-5
FRIDAYS UNTIL 8:00

HOME CEMENT PROJECTS ARE SO EASY!



- Ready-Mixed Cement
- Free Trailers
- Save Time and Money

CALL 732-3126

VALENTINE LUMBER
102 Albany St. Springfield, MA

GIFTS WATCHES
Italian Jewelers

AGAWAM SHOPPING CENTER
AGAWAM, MASS. 01001

"EXPERT WATCH AND JEWELRY REPAIR"

FULLY GUARANTEED
PHONE 786-3664

ENVELOPES WHOLESALE

Now Buy Envelopes In Small Quantities At Wholesale Prices. Complete Line of Commercial and Catalog Envelopes.

White—Colored—Kraft
Ask for our price list
733-5937

BAZAAR

St. Anthony's Church
Springfield

(419 Island Pond Rd.)

Fri., Oct. 15-4-9 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 16-10-9 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 17-9 a.m. noon

Winter Tire Bulletin

WINTER TIRES ARE IN . . .

COME ON OVER FOR A GOOD DEAL

GOODYEAR

For more good years in your car

6 WAYS TO BUY

- CASH
- MASTER CHARGE
- BANKAMERICARD
- CARTE BLANCHE
- OWNERS CLUB
- TEXACO



JERRY PROULX'S



PARK TIRE AND BRAKE CENTER

241 PARK AVE.
WEST SPRINGFIELD
736-9369

RELIABLE USED CARS AT GALE TOYOTA

1970	TOYOTA CORONA 4 DR. SEDAN STANDARD 4 SPEED	\$1695
1970	TOYOTA COROLLA MODEL 1200 2 DR. 4 SPEED	\$1595
1972	TOYOTA COROLLA 2 DR. HT. AT. 43,000 MILES.	\$2095
1973	TOYOTA CELICA VINYL TOP AT. GREEN	\$2695
1973	FORD MUSTANG 2 DR. HARDTOP, V8, PS, AT	\$2895
1973	FORD PINTO SQUIRE WAGON STANDARD, 4 SPEED	\$1995
1973	FORD GRAN TORINO 2 DR. HT. V8, AT, PS	\$2895
1974	DATSUN B210 COUPE STANDARD, 4 SPEED	\$2695
1975	TOYOTA CELICA STANDARD 4 SPEED	\$3295
1975	PLYMOUTH DUSTER 6 CYLINDER STANDARD	\$3195

841 ENFIELD ST., ENFIELD, CONN.
SPRINGFIELD 734-4549 • ENFIELD 745-1630

PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS

OCTOBER 1976 SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, Recreation Swim, Jr. High Pool, 2:00-5:00 p.m.; Open gym, Jr. High Gym, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

MONDAY, Advanced Beginners, Jr. High Pool, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Recreational Swim, Jr. High Pool, 7:30-9:30 p.m.; Women's Basketball League, Jr. High Gym, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, Men's Volleyball, Jr. High Gym, 7:30-9:30 p.m.; Intermediate Swim Inst., Jr. High Pool, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Recreational Swim, Jr. High Pool, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, Self-Defense, Jr. High Gym, 6:00-7:30 p.m.; Junior Lifesaving, Jr. High Pool, 6:00-7:30 p.m.; Women's Fitness, Jr. High Gym & Pool, 7:30-9:30 p.m.; Adult Swim Instruction, Jr. High Pool, 7:30-8:30 p.m.; Int/Adv Belly Dance, Middle School gym, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Beginner Belly Dance, Middle School gym, 7:30-8:30 p.m.; Yoga, Middle School gym, 8:30-9:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, Advanced Swimmer, Jr. High Pool, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Recreational Swim, Jr. High Pool, 7:30-9:30 p.m.; Ballroom Dance Inst., Jr. High Gym, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, Civic Organizations (by reservation), Jr. High Gym & Pool, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, Craft Workshop (8-10), Middle School, 10:00-12:00 Noon; Craft Workshop (11-14), Middle School, 1:00-3:00 p.m.; Gymnastics - 4 & 5 yrs., Junior High Gym, 9:00-10:00 a.m.; Gymnastics - Beginners, Junior High Gym, 10:00-11:00 a.m.; Gymnastics - Advanced, Junior High Gym, 11:00-12:00 NOON; 2&3 yrs. Swim (with adult), Junior High Pool, 9:00-10:00 a.m.; 4&5 yrs. Swim (with adult), Junior High Pool, 10:00-11:00 a.m.; Beginners, Junior High Pool, 11:00-12:00 NOON; Open gym and swim, Junior High Gym & Pool, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Many of the above programs require preregistration at the Parks and Recreation Office. There is a limit to class size, but some openings are still available. For further information call the Agawam Parks and Recreation Department at 786-0400 Extensions 33 or 57.

The Agawam Park and Recreation Department completed their very successful Summer Playground Program on Friday, August 20, 1976. The children participated in many activities at the ten neighborhood playgrounds that included softball games, barbecues, pizza parties, super stars competition, arts and crafts, and many more. Field trips for the Summer included a Boston Red Sox Game, Benson's Game Farm, Look Park, and Plimoth Plantation. Special Events included a Circus and the annual Talent Show. Winners of the Talent Show performed their talent for residents of Heritage Hall Nursing Home.

The highlight of the entire summer was Field Day held on Wednesday, August 18 at Shea Park. The Agawam Lion's Club donated lunch for all participants.

Smilin' Thru—

Is Carter A Southern-Fried McGovern? The Idea Is Love

By Zero Smathers

WASHINGTON, D. C. — I'd heard so much about Jimmy Carter that when an "aide" called and asked if I wanted to interview him, I jumped at the chance.

The first question was whether he is wishy-washy on the issues.

"Well, yes and no," he answered.

Well, how about your position on abortions. "I'm against them but I'll have to uphold the law-permitting them," he said.

What about 14b and the right to work laws in twenty states?

"If the states want those laws fine; I had one in Georgia. If Congress wants to repeal them all, fine too. I'll go along. Love is the thing."

What about this reorganization? Can you really reduce the federal agencies and not put people out of work?

"No one said anything pardon?" about putting people out of work. There'll be more jobs we than before."

And less agencies?

"Of course."

What will all the fired deadbeats be doing, picking peanuts?

"Not all, the idea is love."

If we give the people government as good as they are, if we turn the government back over to them, if we are a government as worthy as the people . . ."

But the people are killing each other and committing crimes at record levels, and the rate is rising!

"The answer is love. I'm not really a southern-fried McGovern as charged, but he had it right about American people a government as fine as they are . . ."

At that point, my guest's wig fell off and he looked remarkably like Rogers Morton. I had thought he was rather large. I blurted:

"What about the Nixon thing?"

"The thing is love. We just give the people . . ."

The Korean Incident

Two weeks after two American officers were slain in the demilitarized zone between the Koreans, the United States was still sending B-52 bombers on "practice runs" over South Korea and keeping a carrier task force close to North Korea in a show of military force or in a war of nerves.

The U.S. demanded apologies from North Korea and compensation, and got official regrets and a proposal to establish an Iron Curtain zone between the two countries where personnel of both sides would be barred.

During this period many Americans wondered whether the Korean incident might escalate into another military conflict involving U.S. troops. There was never much chance of this. The tragic killings were obviously not a part of major aggression, though totally unjustified and highly provocative.

American forces in Korea total about 40,000. An attack on these forces would commit the nation to their support, and that is why they are there. But for any retaliatory action, in the form of new fighting, ten times that number would be needed. Moreover, the present U.S. policy is largely one of reliance on air weapons.

We have made it clear to North Korea any major aggression would be met with tactical nuclear weapons. Thus the only military possibility, in the recent incident, was the shelling of a North Korean installation, or perhaps the bombing of a military installation. The show of force threatened this.

Even that was eventually considered ill-advised. President Ford certainly doesn't want to enter November's election with another Asian war on his hands. Thus there's little chance such incidents will be expanded into major war, despite the show of force in their wake and the strong emotionalism and moral indignation understandably generated at home.



Styled By Carol

ARE YOUR HAIRCUTS A SURPRISE ?

Now There Is A Designer That Will Tell You How Your Hair Will Look Before You Sit In The Chair.

ALL HAIR SERVICES PERFORMED

Angstocrat

29 SOUTHWICK STREET
FEEDING HILLS CENTER

Monday, 9-4; Tuesday thru Friday, 9-9
Saturday, 8-4

PHONE

786-6676

Young

... SINCE 1900

AGAWAM SHOPPING CENTER

WHEN IT COMES TO



FREE
ESTIMATES
TERMS IF DESIRED

NO OBLIGATION

MAKE YOUR
APPOINTMENT
... NOW!

Remember
for Prompt Service

DIAL **786-4140**
or 786-4141



ALUMINUM PRODUCTS

ALUMINUM SIDING
COMBINATION WINDOWS
& DOORS
GUTTERS & DOWNSPOUTS
AWNINGS • SHUTTERS
PORCH ENCLOSURES

Learn Why We Say: "Your Guarantee Is Backed By Time"

J.O. YOUNG COMPANY

71-81 Ramah Cir. So., Agawam • 786-4140 or 786-4141

AGAWAM'S
Firestone
DEALER
CAMPBELL'S GARAGE
12 SCHOOL ST.—786-8260

CLASSIFIED

DENNY'S FLOOR CARE — Residential and Commercial. Wash & Wax kitchen floor, \$7 — 10, depending on size. Wet strip extra. All types of floors maintained. Also wood floors. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call 786-2263.

BEAT THE HIGH COST OF CLOTHING! Learn to sew. Small classes. Reasonably priced. Certified teacher. Lessons at Singer Store, Bay State West. Classes begin Sept. 27th. Call 786-7865.

Foster homes needed for challenging long-term program servicing adolescents. Established agency provides compensation, training and strong supportive services for qualified couples and families. For further information, call the Center for Human Development, 733-6624.

FOR SALE: 1 Life-time membership to the Roman Health Spa. \$600. If interested, write R. Keating, 23 Litchfield Dr., Simsbury, Ct. 06070. Include phone no. We'll call you.

Piano lessons — piano major from U. of Michigan desires good students. 739-2681.

MOVING HOUSEHOLD SURPLUS — New and Used — Good Buys! Glassware, 2 studio couches, G.E. vac cleaner. Gifts galore. Mix-master & grinder, Broiler oven, night tables, folding chairs & game table. 786-0065.

"ACT NOW" — Turn spare time into \$\$\$! Be a SANTA's Demonstrator, earn commissions up to 30% — OR — have a Toy & Gift Party in your home and earn FREE Gifts! Our 29th Year! Call 1/623-8734, or write Santa's Parties, Avon, Conn. 06001."

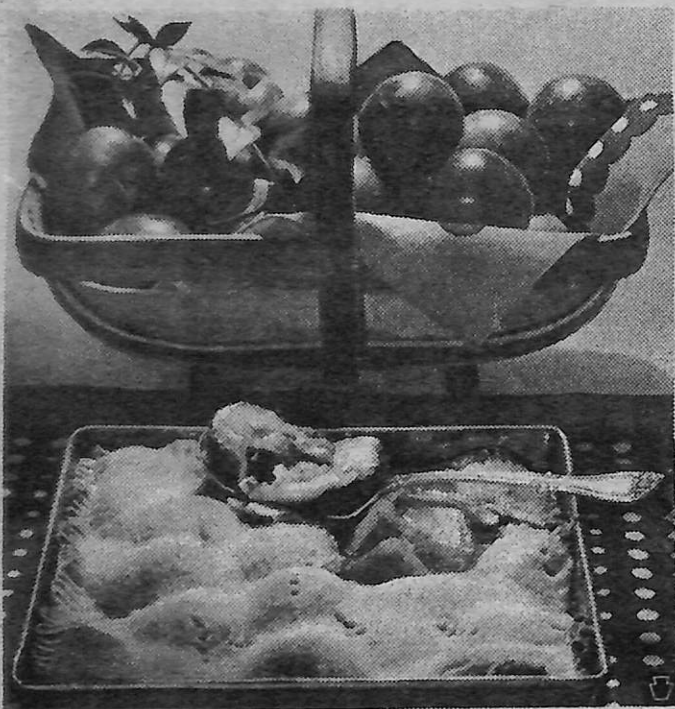
AGAWAM: "David's" window cleaning and janitorial service. Mothers little helper. Floors waxed, rugs shampooed. Walls washed. Residential and commercial. Paul Ferrarini. 786-9574.

MICKEY'S plumbing and heating. Need a plumber — call Mickey. 786-2261.

Women's Awareness Group — Day & Night groups being formed at the Counseling & Resource Center. Room 218, Chestnut St., Springfield. An inexpensive way to "Get it together" in a small friendly group led by qualified professionals. For information, call Pat Gibson at 732-2482 or 533-3255.

CLIP THIS AD
SEWING MACHINE TUNE-UP SPECIAL
Reg. \$14.95 **\$7.50** with this coupon
WE MAKE YOURS LIKE NEW
Any make or model.
SEWING OUTLET
313 SPRINGFIELD ST.
Agawam
OPEN 9-6 DAILY
786-5313

Tempt Dessert Lovers with Plum Pandowdy



Here's a special old-fashioned dessert to please everyone. It's a simple deep-dish pie made with fresh California plums.
Invented by a thrifty colonial cook, pandowdy is a perfect way to enjoy plums... now and later. That refreshing plum tartness is perfectly complemented by a buttery sugar crust and fragrant spices in the filling.

When shopping for red, green, yellow or blue fresh California plums, select fruit that is firm and full-colored. A slightly soft tip-end is a good indication of ripeness. If not quite ripe, leave plums at room temperature for a day or two. But, watch carefully. Fresh plums ripen quickly. Refrigerate ripe plums to keep them fresh and juicy for several days.

With the colorful parade of fresh plums now in our markets, now's the time to enjoy them in all our favorite ways... and to preserve some of that plum goodness to enjoy all winter long.

CALIFORNIA PLUM PANDOWDY

1½ cups flour plus 3 tablespoons	1½ pounds fresh California plums, pitted and quartered (about 9 plums or 4½ cups quartered plums)
½ cup powdered sugar	
½ teaspoon salt	
1 teaspoon grated lemon peel	1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
½ cup butter or margarine	½ teaspoon each cinnamon and nutmeg
3 tablespoons milk	

Into mixing bowl, sift together 1½ cups flour, sugar and salt, add lemon peel. With pastry blender, cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse meal. With fork, lightly mix in milk. Set aside. Turn plums into 8-inch square cake pan. Combine remaining 3 tablespoons flour with brown sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg; sprinkle over plums. On lightly floured board, roll pastry into 8-inch square. Place over plums; crimp edges. Slash steam vents in top; sprinkle with sugar, if desired. Bake in 425 degree oven 30 minutes or until golden brown and bubbly. Serve warm with heavy cream, if desired. Makes 6 servings.

ALL RECIPES HAVE BEEN TESTED BY A CONSUMER PANEL.

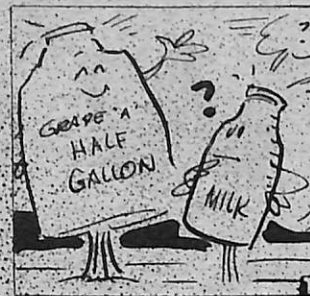
FIGHTING INFLATION

You can fight inflation by turning an old window-shade into a blackboard. Simply paint it with black-board paint and your children can have a black-board that rolls up when not in use.

You can fight inflation by buying milk by the gallon or half-gallon instead of quarts, as long as your family will drink it before it spoils.

You can fight inflation by remembering that if a smaller sized egg is less than 7 cents a dozen cheaper than the larger sized egg, the larger sized egg is the better buy.

"Tenderness is passion in repose."
Joseph Joubert



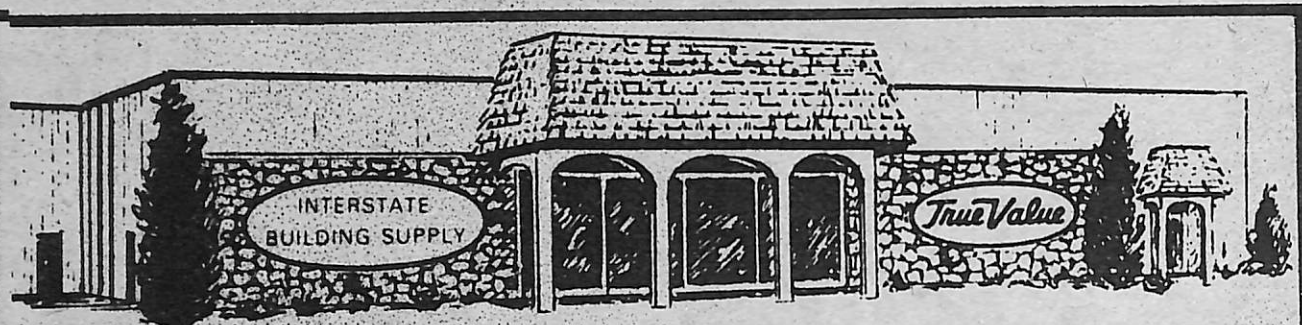
malls at a cost the average person can afford.

You can fight inflation by knowing that mixed frozen vegetables are more expensive than fresh vegetables bought separately and then mixed by yourself.

STATE INSPECTION STATION

#20668
SEPT. 1 TO OCT. 15
TOWN TEXACO
395 MAIN ST., AGAWAM

BANG!
Pistols are so called from a small knife, made in Pistola, Italy.



INTERSTATE BUILDING SUPPLY

announces its

Grand Opening

Celebration

SEPT. 25 - OCT. 9, 1976

Come In and Register To Win
PORTABLE COLOR TELEVISION, a CB RADIO, and many Many Other Fine Prizes.

No Purchase Necessary
DRAWING - SAT., OCT. 9
at 2 P.M.

Meet our qualified staff of people who have a combined total of more than 250 years of experience in the lumber and hardware business

STOP IN and VISIT.

Watch for our many advertised, as well as unadvertised specials during these two big weeks specials

SPECIALS! SPECIALS! SPECIALS!

SATURDAY, SEPT. 25 THRU WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29 ONLY

10% off

on ALL PANELING IN STOCK

MOORGARD LATEX HOUSE PAINT



only **\$8.99** per gallon

PRICES GIVEN ARE CASH & CARRY ONLY

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS



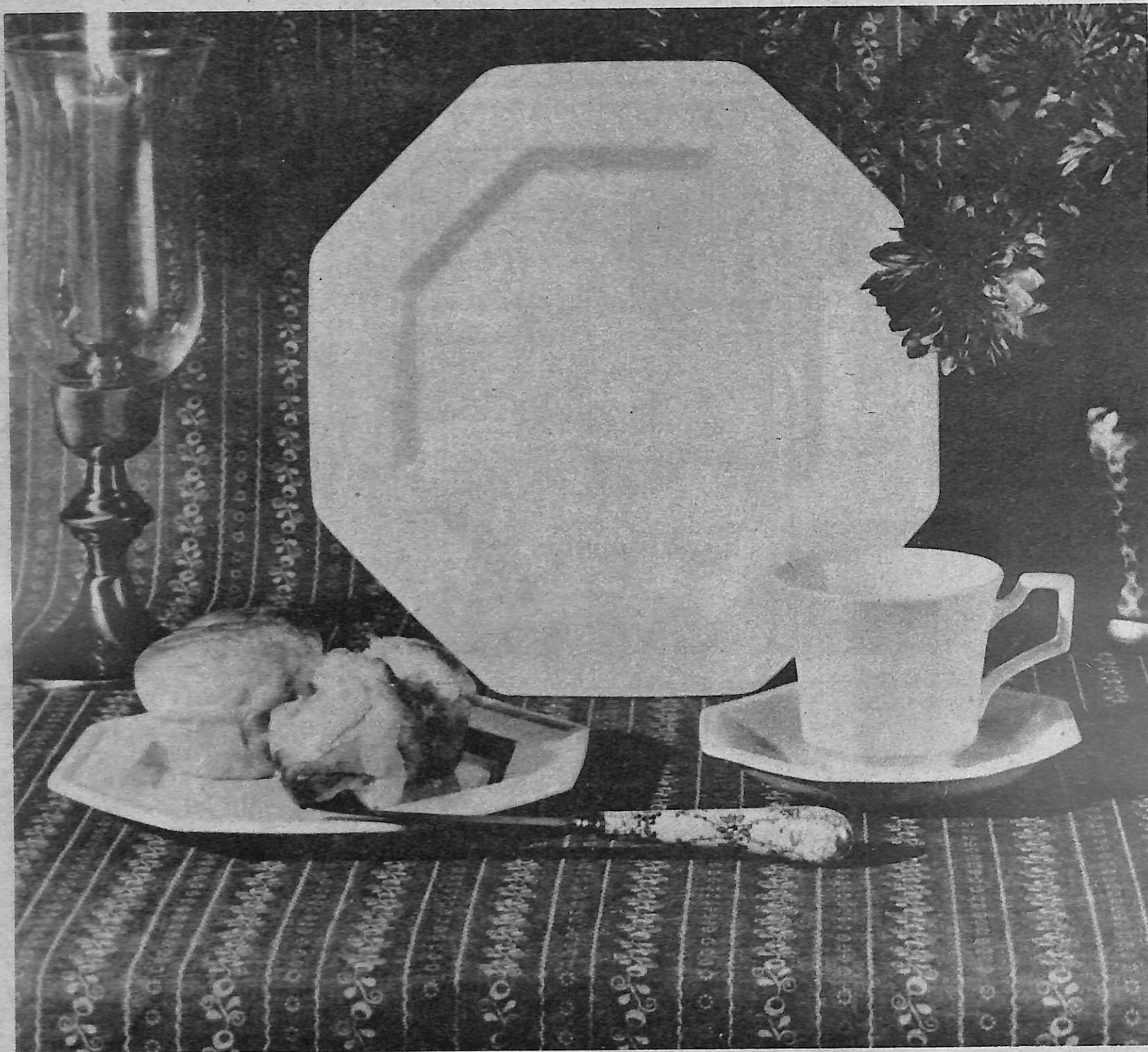
INTERSTATE BUILDING SUPPLY, INC.

635 COLLEGE HIGHWAY, ROUTE 10-202
SOUTHWICK, MASS. CALL 413-569-5525

OPEN: Mon., Thurs. Fri. 7 AM - 9 PM, Tues. & Wed. 7 AM - 5 PM, Sat. 8 AM - 4 PM



How's this for openers?

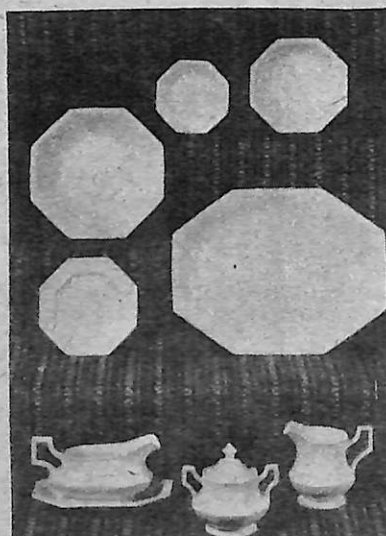


ABSOLUTELY FREE . . . a 4-piece setting of exquisite Royal Staffordshire "Revere" Ironstone dinnerware -- the finest -- from England to you, via WESTBANK.

Simply **OPEN** a regular savings account with a \$50 deposit, or **ADD** \$50 to an existing account, and this handsome 4-piece setting is yours. Then, each time you add \$25 or more to your account, you can buy another setting for only \$4.95 plus tax. We'll give you your 10th setting **FREE**.

Start your English "Revere" collection now. The classic elegance of this gleaming, bone-white dinnerware graces the colonial table as beautifully as the traditional or contemporary . . . and then graces your dishwasher!

Set a spectacular table . . . and set yourself up with spectacular savings . . . at WESTBANK.



Accessory Pieces available:

4 Soup Dishes	6.50*
4 Salad Plates	6.25*
4 Fruit Dishes	5.25*
1 Platter	6.95*
1 Vegetable Dish	4.25*
1 Sugar and Creamer	9.95*
1 Gravy Boat	9.95*

*Plus Sales Tax

MEMBER FDIC

WESTBANK

PARK WEST BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

AGAWAM 1340 Springfield Street / HOLYOKE 378 High Street / 416 Main Street / WEST SPRINGFIELD 11 Central Street / 1440 Westfield Street / 1000 Riverdale Street